

Then he tells about the people who did not have the word at all before. It was never brought to them saying the day is coming when the deaf will hear the words of ~~the~~ the scroll, and out of gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind will see. Once more the humble will rejoice in the Lord; the needy will rejoice in the Holy ONE of Israel. The ruthless will vanish, the mockers will ~~disappear~~ disappear, and all those who have an eye for evil will be cut down--those who with a word make a man out to be guilty, who ensnare the defender in court and with false testimony deprive the innocent of justice.' They are going to be punished. They are going to be removed.

Therefore this is what the Lord, who redeemed Abraham says to the house of Jacob: No longer will Jacob be ashamed; ..." Why should Jacob be ashamed? Because Jacob looks upon his descendants and sees so many of them ~~turning~~ turning away from the Lord. He looks upon his descendants and sees the number that are truly trusting in God and becoming less and less. He looks forward, and he sees that situation where the Pharisees and the Saducees vying with one another in criticizing the Lord Jesus. He looks to that and says, Jacob will no longer be ashamed. No longer will his face grow pale when they see among them their children, the work ~~of my hands~~ of my hands."

Jesus ~~ssa~~ said, God can raise up unto Abraham children from these stones. In other words those who belong to God, those who part of the true Israel of God because God has supernaturally redeemed them, they are the work of His hands. Of course that refers to all the Jews who come to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, but it also refers to those from every land, from every area who turn to Christ and become part of the true people of God. "They will keep my name holy; they will acknowledge the holiness of the Holy One of Jacob, and will stand in awe of the God of Israel. Those who were wayward in spirit will gain understanding, those who complain will accept instruction."

So in these chs., and there I'm going on, he looks at the same things that are looked at in chs. 7-12, but if you don't have 7-12 as a background for it, it's pretty hard to get much understanding of what he is dealing with. But if you get the background you see how everything fits right in. The first part (7-12) looks forward to the wicked king Ahaz, head of the house of David, being replaced by the Lord Jesus Christ; here we look at the evil leaders of the people being replaced by those whom God would bring into his kingdom, many from Israel but many others from every land from every people in the earth to be part of His real people looking forward to that eventual time when the natural branches will again be grafted to the tree of witness.

Shall we have a word of prayer: Our Father we thank you for your Word. We cannot make progress when we put our attention on the thoughts of men . . . .(end)