

Survey of Isa. 7-12, 28-35

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not original either but they were put in very early. But until the 13th cent. there were no ch. divisions. And then an Eng. Archbishop put in the ch. divisions in his Latin Bible. They say he did it as he was going on horseback about his pastoral calls. And some have said that sometimes perhaps when the horse stumbled he put in a division where he didn't intend to. I heard Campbell Morgan the celebrated Eng. Bible Expositor say that he thought that in 9 times out of 10 he thought that the ch. divisions were in the wrong place. I think that's grossly exaggerated. I think that a grt. many of them are very excellently ^{made} ~~made~~. But there are many cases where they are very poorly made. And where they are confusing very often. The material runs straight along and the ch. division is just an interruption. I don't think though we should make many changes in them. They are a most wonderful benefit to us in enabling us to find any vs. in the Script. quickly. There is such a value for that, that to try to improve them would introduce so much confusion that we think it would be harmful. It is better to keep them as they are, and to recognize they are purely human divisions and sometimes very misleading. Usually if I study any passage I like to start 2 or 3 vs. before the beg. of the ch. and say, Is there really a real break here, or does it just go straight along? And I think that is very wise to do, otherwise you can be misled.

Now between ch. 6 and 7 there is definitely a break. And between 12 and 13 there is definitely a break. There is no question that ch. 7-12 are distinct from what precedes and from what follows. But ch. 7:1-9:7 is one unit. If ~~you~~ you are going to subdivide this unit perhaps as good a place to subdivide it as any is where the chapter divisions are. But the change from chapter 9:7 to 9:8 is a ~~far~~ far greater ~~change~~ change of subject than anything between 7:1 and 9:7. Now ch. 8-7 is one of the chapters of Isa. that is quoted more than any other, principally for just one vs. Most of the ~~ch.~~ ch. very few people know ^{anything} ~~anything~~ about. We could easily spend an hour or two on this 7th ch. There are some difficult questions in it and there are certain matters in ~~it~~ it on which there has been much dispute. But I don't think that that is our purpose today. I'd rather give you a survey of 7-12 and 28-35, to