10.

of history and in the midst of this period the northern kingdom goes into exile, though the southern kkngdom not for a century and a quarter later. Isaiah, of course, was writing in the southern kingdom. He is writing primarily for the kings and nobles and common people of the southern kingdom though he naturally has considerable interest also in the northern kingdom. He tells us in the very first chapter of his book who were the kings at the time when he wrote. "In the days, he says, "of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah" We find Uzziah mentioned only once in the book--in Chapter 6 where it tells us at what time Isaiah receives his call, his inaugural/, in the year that king Uzziah died. We find king Ahaz mentioned a number of times, particularly beginning with Chapter 7 and we find Hezekiah mentioned a good many times particularly in the historical section between Chapter 36 and Chapter 39. Isaiah then is written in a day when the northern kingdom was about to go into exile and in the period after the northern kingdom had gone into exile. Isaiah is bringing God's rebuke to the southern kingdom as well as the northern kingdom for their sins and their disobedience to God, and he is warning them that if they do not turn to God they will go into exile but he also is telling them that the exile will not be the end but after the exile there are wonderful blessings which God has in store not only for Israel but for the entire world. That is a very rapid review of the outstanding features in the historic background of the book. We note that Isaiah is mentioned by name in II Kings 19 and 20 which parallels a good bit of the material in Isaiah 36 ff. Also in II Chronicks, he is mentioned three times in II Chronicles, in Chapter 26, Verse 22; in 32, Verse 20 and 32, Verse 32, where again we have a close parallel to the historic material that is contained in the-last-part that historical section in the middle of the book of Isaiah.

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where the name of the author is referred to in the book. We can fix him in the history by the references to him in these historic books even if we did not have many references to history in the book of Isaiah. It is interesting to note that we find Isaiah mentioned by name in Chapter 1, Verse 1 where we have a title given to the book.