

Próphets 92.

walk in and destroy it." I understand the experts of the United States army said: "It won't take over six weeks for Hitler's forces to completely master Russia and it seemed perfectly silly to even dream of such a thing as Russia being an that might possibly be a menace to the United States, so if somebody made a prediction like that in 1936 would say: "What a remarkable thing to suggest", whereas if somebody made such a prediction as that today you would simply say: "Well, now maybe we ought to have military training and get ready and prevent such a thing occurring." Times change. Well now, of course, if somebody had made such a prediction as that, not in 1936 but in 1850 that would be still more strange and if it had been made not of a great, sprawling continent nation like Russia but of some small country that was subordinate to another country that would seem fantastic. Well that is the situation in Isaiah 39. Babylon is subject to Assyria. The city has gained its freedom but only for a brief interim. They have managed to revolt from Assyria. The Assyrian forces are gathering for a reattack; three or four years later they attack again and again put Babylon under their control and under those circumstances for someone to say: "Babylon is going to conquer Judah and take away the people captive would be fantastic and so it is a wonderful proof of God's revelation, God's use of the prophet Isaiah that in Chapter 39 this prophet would make this wonderful prediction that not Assyria but Babylon would take away Judah into captivity. Now then, the roll ends, let us suppose, with that. Here is a complete book, thirty-nine chapters, written by Isaiah. It ends with the account of Isaiah's wonderful, unbelievable prediction that the people are going to be taken into Babylon to captivity and then one hundred and fifty years later they are in Babylon, subject to Babylon, that is; in Babylonia, in captivity, and the people there are reading the book of Isaiah and saying: "Oh, what a precise, wonderful prediction he made of what was going to happen. But he has also promised us that we are going to be taken back eventually from here, that God still has mercy for Israel and then a great prophet arises, ^{all} greatest of/the Old Testament prophets, but a man who is unnamed as was common of many prophets you know as we went through our Old Testament history looking at the various prophets, many a prophet is not named in connection with his actions or with his writings, here is a ^{unnamed} great/prophet who has read this book of Isaiah