

Prophets 94.

right hand I held. If you don't believe that Cyrus is the Messiah, why follow the Scripture as I read it and see what it actually says and if you don't believe that look at the Hebrew and see what the original says. Now, Chapter 46, Verse 13. He says, "I bring near my righteousness!" as we looked just a minute ago, but it is in the context telling about Cyrus' coming. Verse 11/ He says, "My counsel shall stand and I will do all my pleasure, calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country. " Cyrus conquered land after land after land. He's a ravenous bird. He comes out of the east and he conquers all this and yet he's doing God's pleasure and he is going to release the people. It is a picture which presupposes exile and describes deliverance as about to take place. Chapter 58, Verse 12 - They that be of thee shall build the old waste places:" I read this once under another head. They shall raise up the foundations of many generations. Chapter 60, Verse 10 - And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee. Cyrus gave orders. The people were to go back to the land and they were to be given money from the royal treasury to rebuild the temple and later Persian kings gave money to help in rebuilding the walls of the city. Chapter 61, v. 4. They shall build up the old wastes. They shall repair the former desolation. They shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. That's the way it would look to them years later, hardly the way it would look in advance. Then Chapter 66, Verse 12 follows. It's pointed out - prediction of future bliss/^{given} as coming rather soon. Now in these chapters we find no mention of Israelitish kings or sacrifices. No mention of the sacrifices being performed. No mention of the kings, no Israelite king named in these chapters. They are frequently named in the earlier chapters though. We find that in these chapters the exiles are addressed personally. He doesn't say, "Your descendants will come back from Babylon!" He doesn't say, "After this great destruction comes, years later, there will be people who will come back." He says, "Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people." He speaks directly to them. In Chapter 40 there are many times when he speaks directly to them. For instance, Verse 21, Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Verse 26 - Lift up your eyes on high and behold who hath created these things. He gives power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Think of them with the long