

Prophets 94.

he is describing someone who is familiar to his hearers and giving a different interpretation of him, showing that he is actually God's . And so that is a rather rapid summary. It would be much more vivid to you if you went through these chapters and saw what they're driving at and how the prophet here, "You people in exile have been here a long time in suffering and misery. You tend to think God can't help you. Well, you're wrong. God is going to help you. God lives. These idols don't live. God lives; He's going to help you. He's going to deliver you. He's going to bring you out of this land and that great aggressor Cyrus who's conquering these other nations is going to be the one to deliver you from Babylon and he's even going to give help to send you back to the old land. Now this argument from historical background then is the great argument. It is the great evidence regarding the background of these latter chapters. Now, Driver, S. R. Driver, in his great, /^{book}The Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament, gives this argument at some length and many of the references I have quoted are the very references which he gives us, but he goes on and gives two other arguments. He gives three arguments for considering that Chapters 39, 40 rather, to 66 come from a different writer and at a later date. The second argument which he gives he says is the argument derived from the historic of the prophecy is confirmed by the literary side. Chapters 40-66, he says, is very different from that of Isaiah. Isaiah shows strongly marked individualities of style. He is fond of particular images and phrases, many of which are used by no other writer of the Old Testament. Now in the chapters which contain evident allusions to the age of Isaiah himself, these expressions occur repeatedly. In the chapters which are without such allusions and which thus authorize prima facie the inference that they belong to a different age they are absent and new images and phrases appear instead. He says this coincidence cannot be accidental. The subject of Chapters 40-66 is not so different from that of Isaiah's prophecies against the Assyrians as to necessitate a new phraseology and historical ~~frm~~. The differences can only be reasonably explained by the supposition of an exchange of authors, and then he proceeds to give several pages of examples of words and phrases which are characteristic of the first Isaiah and of words and phrases characteristic of the unknown writer who has sometimes been called the second Isaiah. And then he says there are literary factors of a more general character which