

be and what he should do. It seems to me that it is the picture of the ideal servant-- the picture of that which God says is going to be done by his servant, a picture of what God demands from the servant. He has told Israel that Israel is His servant and it immediately comes in your mind that here is one that is powerful and successful and accomplishes this great work and here we are in exile and God is going to bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. It isn't the Gentiles we're worrying about--we're getting ours but what about their judgment. Who is going to bring their judgment? Who is going to ~~release~~ ^{release} us? The servant is to go and bring judgment to the Gentiles. We're discouraged and disheartened. We are even tending to wonder whether God exists and question His power when He gives us over to these wicked people. And these gods of wood and stone are set on high and our own city is warned. But here he says that the Servant will not fail until He has established judgment in the earth. Does earth mean only judgment in Palestine and here it was so bad in Palestine that God had cast them off into exile. Is it in the land of Babylonia that is mind. How can we set judgment in that land with that mighty king with that tremendous wickedness all around us. Or does it mean in the whole world, or simply in Palestine. But it mentions the islands--the coast-line, the land of Greece but all this time Israel is in subjection and in exile. How can does this happen. God immediately gives the answer to discouragement. Note v. 5--the note of God's power is expressed again. Thus said God who created the heavens and stretched them out--that spreads forth the earth--He that giveth breath to those who walk in the earth. The stress is on the great power of the Lord and though the people don't see how it is going to happen. God says that it will happen--"I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, for a light to the Gentiles--a covenant to the people. Is this not a wonderful thing!

206 Then he speaks about bring the prisoners out of prison but how can we bring out the prisoners when we are in prison ourselves--we are in bondage and exile here. If Israel is the servant how is this going to be fulfilled? Those that sit in darkness--well, that is exactly what ~~we~~ we are doing--we are sitting in darkness and captivity. How are we going to lead out others when we are in the very situation ourselves. But God comes again with His word of encouragement--"I am the Lord and will not give my glory to another". His people are in captivity to those who are in captivity to graven images but He will not give His glory ~~to~~ ^{to} another nor His praise to graven images. God says these wonderful things about His power but the people just aren't quite able to grasp it. In the face of the situation it seems