

the Lord brings a strong rebuke in answer. He asks them why can they not do this. Who gave Israel for a spoil and the robber. Did not the Lord do this. He didn't do this because He couldn't help it but you are here because God has put you in this position. He is the one against you have sinned, for they would not walk after His ways nor were they obedient to His will. Note. vs. 24 and 25. For the execution of this work Abraham was called and Jacob was set apart--Here they had the calling of the God that took them out of Egypt and Israel has only turned into sin and gone into wickedness. God has deliberately sent them into captivity as a punishment for their sin. It certainly is the chastening of Israel that is mentioned here. It would be hard to know where the heading should be put since it is not a logical discourse but you look at this motif and that motif and they are all related logically but even more emotionally. Here is Israel being chastened instead of being out doing the will of God. Here is Israel in prison instead of being out delivering others from prison. How is the work of the Lord's servant going to be done. A person might tend to despair with this statement of what God has done with a feeling of frustration, and the inability of the people to accomplish the work for which God has called them but now God say, Fear not: here is confidence and assurance and encouragement. God is not going to desert Israel but He is not through with them. There are two ways of studying this. What does the light of the N.T. throw on this passage but the other way is to take the text in context and then after seeing what each passage teaches you will come together in the end. There is the misconception that Matt. just grabbed a few lines that he wanted and simply grabbed them out of context but that is not what he did and by studying it this way we can see the whole thing as whole. Now in ch. 43--the break simply helps us to find a page, since it goes right on from ch. 42. You notice how it goes on encouraging them and and the Lord says, I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

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If the servant is called by God and for God's purposes, He will then be with them when they need Him most "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee, and the rivers will not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burned up and neither will the flame kindle upon thee for I am the Lord thy God, and I gave Egypt for thy ransom. Ethiopia and Sebia for thee" That is an interesting verse and we ask what does