

reason for the exile and theif is what must be cured. People are after getting symptoms and cure for that but if you don't get the basic wrong fixed it does no great good in simply getting the symptoms cured. He is not dragging in something that has no relation. It is something that he has been touching for a long time. Israel is God's servant and God will deliver Israel. He will redeem them from Babylon and He is not going to leave them there to suffer and yet why are they there. It is because of their sin. It is not enough to deal with the Babylon question but you have to deal with the sin question. That is the thing that He has been bringing out and pushing forward through these chapters. If we don't see that we are not prepared for what follows. You have a series of great thoughts going this way and that--that is what Phiffer says, as a great stream flowing down a mountain side but if you get the drift--You have feeling and emotion and if is all directed to bring out the idea that the vital thing is to get this sin-question settled. If you don't, you can get the Babylon question settled but you will not have the major problem settled. So the question of redemption from sin is a vital question. He simply touches it and the people might say, O Yes, we know all about sin, but what we are interested in, is how we are going to get out of Babylon. We want to know that there is a God. The idols have conqered and destroyed our sites and here we are in misery. What are we going to do and the root of the question is what about the sin. He stresses it often that this is the answer that is vital. Of course that is the same situation that you face in Christian work in any place. If things are going fine, any people anywhere on earth are liable to go on and forget God but they soon forget the basic matter of the sin question. If they get into some trouble of some kind, immediately they begin looking for help and the thing for you to do is to show them that sin is the basic cause of all trouble and if the sin question isn't solwed it does not good trying to get rid of the symptoms. God is trying to get shold of their consciences and showing that that is what must be dealt with--the question of their sin. Comfort and consolation is the vital thing and the motifs are the obvious things that bring comfort--deliverance, the Greatness of God, His knowledge--all these are the great general motifs but it does not consist of simply this but it leads up to other things. They are given to help in understanding of their difficulty The work of the Servant is given in ch. 42 but how can this work be done. If Israel cannot do the work, who is going to do the work and if Israel can do it,