

how can they do it. That is the question --how is this going to be done. The servant motif we might say that it is not the outstanding motif though it is given again and again and is something that develops and opens up. As you go on you understand more about it. The reason and basic underlying cause for their being in Babylon--what is the ~~question~~ answer to that. That might be called a dynamic motif which enters in almost inconspicuously when they first open up, but then you later see how important they become. You don't simply have a presentation of wonderful truths expressed over and over but is done to express two new and vital thoughts --at least two that are not included in the general motif. These are the two that we are developing now. Here is the cause of the ~~sin~~ exile-- because of their sin and now what can we do about it. God says that He is going to blot it out and is going to cause the people to return to Him and He will redeem them. How is He going to deal with the sin question? In v. 24 he goes again into the greatness of God. Then the next verse gives something about His omniscience. He is gradually bringing them to realize the importance of this phase of deliverance, redemption and of course only an omniscient God could assure them that He would do it. He is bringing that to their attention. He is addressing the godly in Israel who see the exile as absolutely certain. They are nevertheless implicated as a nation--this is Israel as whole, but it is thought of as those who realize that they are in Babylon on account of their sin and are looking for an answer of the problem. He is not here saying that the redemption has been accomplished but is here giving a prediction as though it has already occurred. He is giving assurance that God is going perform what he has said but how he is going to do it has not yet been said. We are to rejoice because He will do but how will He do it? It is the problem that is being raised. Note v. 25--omniscience of God. He makes the people think that they can think things up out of their own clever heads and they have may have wonderful minds and most wonderful acumen to understand the universe but God proves them to be foolish because He shows them that they cannot get an answer but from one who knows. The greatest powers of this world started out that there would be freedom from want, freedom in religion, fear, speech and we have less freedom of speech, more fear, more want etc. than the world has known for a thousand years. Roosevelt started out with fine objectives and high ideals but in man's mind it cannot be accomplished in human wisdom alone. It's only through the help of God that anything can be successful and of any lasting value.