

then you ask the Lord to make the crooked places straight and you have a right to apply it by implication for yourself, if you are sure that you are following God's Word and are called of Him to do the work. Specifically it is speaking of Cyrus and to Cyrus. Cf. vs. 2. Do you ^{know} what the gates of Babylon were made of? The first necessity for the interpretation for Scripture is to see what the words and verses are. You look for the Hebrew word when you are told it is of glass the gates are made. Thus I would approve another word instead of glass for it. It is not a bad answer but I think perhaps we can find something else. Ques.--how can we be absolutely sure? There may be various possibilities. So we look in the Scripture to see what gates he is going to open and we have no specific mention of just what it is he is doing there. Egypt is given to him as a ransom but there is no mention of the gates there specifically. He might be speaking of the gates of Egypt but he has been speaking of Cyrus as the one who is coming to let the Israelites to go free and if he lets them go free and the whole discussion of the next few chapters and in view of that I agree that we should not say we are 100% sure if it is Babylon but I know of no alternative possibility and I would feel 90% sure of it and I don't know of anything else it might be. Ques. If you want to take it figuratively it is alright but he is promised he is going to conquer Babylon and he is told he is going to overcome the power of Babylon and set the Israelite free and in the book of Daniel we read how he did conquer Babylon and so it would seem possible that when he is speaking of gates holding a great city, he might be speaking of the gates of this city. Above he has been speaking of the leave gates and we then have the remark that did not write this passage as how would he in Palestine know of the leave gates of Babylon. Instead of it being one gate like in many cities, there are the two and it is easily answered that Babylon was a very famous city and the reputation spread over everywhere. There is no reason why Isaiah could not have known about the two leave gates of Babylon but I fully admit it is possible that it is only a figurative expression and one cannot dismiss the fact that there is still the possibility of it. Ques. It would fit with the thing in Daniel where Belshazzar has the thing happen the very night when it has been told to him that it would. It is possible that the gates are made of lumber and this could be but the other conjectures should be made all the same.