

Israel herself is in captivity. So God asks how they come to be in captivity and it is because of your sin and it is because you have revolted against God and Israel is in captivity because of the sin question. It is necessary to deal with the sin question and that could be of taking them out of one captivity and putting them into another one. Israel must then do the work of the servant, God gives the assurance that the work is going to be done and yet how can Israel do the work is the question. The work of the servant is a work to be done by Israel but not by all of Israel. There is to be one out of Israel to represent Israel in doing this work. Through this one God will carry out the great work which He has started and then we come to that verse in Is. 48:16--in which we find that God is speaking and yet it is also the servant speaking. It is difficult to disentangle as to how much it is God speaking and how much it is the servant speaking. Can both of them be speaking

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It is clarified in the NT that the servant is actually God Himself but the servant is the one whom God sends but still He is God. God is only one and yet He is three and right here we have the theme brought out that the Lord God has sent me and yet He is God. The three persons of the Godhead are brought together in this one verse. It is not explained in full theological fashion but it is suggested in such a way that the doctrine of the trinity is the key that unlocks the verse and makes it clear. Without that it is difficult to get the meaning clear. Ques. They could see that here was a great mystery and more to the teaching of God then they had understood and then they would begin to piece the threads together and see what it was. Isaiah 9 is proof showing that Isaiah is to be Wonderful, Counsellor, the Everlasting God, the mighty Father, the Prince of Peace, etc. How can a Messiah, a king of the reign of David, have all of these things said about him? Yet it is true. It is a problem, a difficulty, a strange thing and a verse we can't understand in the light of our present knowledge but it is an idea about some great truth of the being of God and it needs more full revelation. Isaiah is not speaking in this verse as he could not say what is said here. This is God speaking but he says that God has sent him. How can the servant say things about himself that only God could say about himself? It is a problem and a difficult one. He would hold it up there as a problem, something which he would eventually get more light on it. The difficulty is that so many leave this scientific approach and recognize it is a problem and they try to hold it up there and wait until they find further light and then they say