

God could not help them. They have gone there because their sin brought this about.

The Godly in the nation are implicated in the sin with the rest and as a result of the sin of the nation, that man has gone into captivity and into exile. It is not God's weak-

ness. Then He goes on to say that He clothes the Heavens with blackness and make sackcloth their covering and I do all of these things and do you think I could not protect you from the Babylonians? You are not there because I am not interested but because of your own

sin. It must all go back to the basic question as to what is the cause of it all? The

Lord takes the things that interest the people but then He goes back to show how it all

gets into the individual heart and into the separate situation. Ill. of work in N. J.

prisons--Reader's Digest. The basic in it is that he gives them a chance to air their

grievances and they all say they are there because they were framed, etc, and it puts them

in such a situation that as they discuss it they all see the pretense on the part of the

others. Each one sees from the other what is happening. They come to the point where they

point out then that the man was really at fault himself and then the men one by one point

back against each other and it is clear. They see then how much better it is to look the

facts in the face and they see how they are responsible for the situation as it is. They

were trying to keep from thinking of these things. He said that you realize you are at

fault and then you feel as though you have no friends and no good outlook at all. You have

to get that out of your mind. He is bringing them to a realization of the facts and that is

what he wants done to them here. He is bringing them to realize that it is their responsi-

bility that has put them in the position they are now in. When you come to that realization

you have then gone a long ways. Every one who goes into Christian work--if you come to a

realization of that it would be a great help. You are going to be in the position where you

will simply know if it were not for the meanness of the people about you, then you would be

accomplishing great things. If they would take responsibility and the way they expect you

to do so much, etc, think how much you could accomplish. If you can get back to the teaching

in the chapters here and get to the point of realizing how greatly the attitude we have

affects the outlook. If we see where we are wrong and where we need the Lord's help and

then look to Him we will be helped. It will increase your effectiveness almost 100% to get

that realization. It is the hardest thing in the world to get someone to realize it and

I don't doubt but what you will visit a good friend in difficulty and they will blame

others. Who is in a work serving the Lord and they are working hard and things just aren't