to endeavor to bring up their children to be true to it. We know that they must have done this because there was a very large group of devoted followers of the Lord among the Jews all through the exile.

It has also a second purpose. It is to assure the people at the time to which Isaiah looks forward in imagination that God is with them and will bring and end to the exile and lead them into marvelous blessings after it.

We find this same note struck at many other points. A very clear one is Isaiah 42.22 where we read the description of the people in the long period of misery which is now imagined as about to come to an end. "But this *is a people robbed* and spoiled, they are all ensnared in holes, and they are hid in prison houses; they are for a prey and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith, Restore."

Another very clear evidence of the fact that the people to whom this passage, our section is addressed are imagined as in a condition of misery from which God is going to deliver them is found in the latter part of chapter 51, where we read in verse 14, "Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the Lord the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out." Verse 19 reads, "These two things are co me unto thee; who shall be sorry for thee? desolation, and destruction, and the famine, and the sword: by whom shall I comfort thee?" Verses 22-23 read, "Thus saith thy Lord, the Lord, and thy God that pleadeth the cause of his people, Behold, I have taken out of thine hand the cup of trembling, even the dregs of the cup of my fury; thou shalt no more drink it again: But I will put it into the hand of them that afflict thee; which have said to thy soul, Bow down, that we may go over: and thou hast laid they body as the ground, and as the street, to them that went over."

These and many other passages show that Isaiah imagines the people as approaching the end of a long period of misery. During this time the land has lain in ruins. This is brought out in many passages. We will mention two or three

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