

servant of God and that his life is one which is being used for God's glory, then truly he has a right to apply this verse to himself even though it is originally addressed to Israel in exile in Babylon.

Verse eleven is not quoted as frequently as verse ten; yet it is equally true. How often verses eleven and twelve have proven true in the history of the Jews. Those who have attempted to destroy them have indeed been ashamed and confounded and even in our own day we have ~~found~~^{seen} severe retribution ~~coming~~^{come} to those who have persecuted Israel.

What a terrific statement is contained in verse twelve, "Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them!" Today we look in vain for any remnant of the great empires of Assyria and Babylonia. The great forces which have persecuted the Jews through the ages have disappeared and been forgotten. Only a few remains of broken walls and ruined buildings attest the one-time greatness of these mighty empires. We can seek in vain for those who have persecuted God's people, but God's people remain.

The preservation of the Jew is one of the great proofs of the truth of God's Word. Everything which God has not planted shall be rooted up: (Matt. 15:13). That which truly is established of the Lord and trusts in Him will abide forever.

God's protecting care over Israel is further described in verses thirteen and following. Verse thirteen, like verse ten, is ~~also~~ one which the true believer may apply to himself. Next come verses fifteen and sixteen, in which God predicts the destruction of those who injure His people, while in verses seventeen to nineteen He promises gentle care for His own. These three verses find a beautiful spiritual application in the lives of God's people through the ages, but will have a literal fulfillment in the time when God's righteousness shall cover the earth "as the waters cover the sea."