

verse twenty-one by the argument so often stressed in these chapters - His power to predict the future. He tells us what He will do and then He proceeds to do it; consequently we know that He actually exists and has the power to perform these things. Many a man has attempted to predict the future and has utterly failed. There are so many circumstances involved in prediction that it takes more than mere human knowledge to make a true prediction of any degree of complexity. Yet the Scriptures are full of predictions that have come true. God alone knows the future. He controls all things and consequently is able, when He chooses, to tell exactly what is going to happen.

In verses twenty-two to twenty-five we have a wonderful call, which God gives not merely to Israel but to all the earth, to look unto Him and be saved. He has declared that in the end every knee is going to bow to Him. Now He is giving the very "ends of the earth" opportunity to come to His righteousness and strength. The day is coming, He tells us in verse twenty-five, when all the seed of Israel will be justified in the Lord. This refers to that wonderful time when a nation shall be born in a day and all of Israel shall believe in Christ.

Isaiah Forty-Six

The denunciations of idols so far have been made in general terms without naming any particular gods. Now we find a specific declaration that the two leading gods of Babylon, Bel and Nebo, are going to be proven utterly unable to accomplish anything. They themselves have to be carried, and will go into captivity when Cyrus conquers their land. In contrast to these idols which have to be carried by their people, God points out in verses three and four that He Himself carries His people and is going to carry them and deliver them from youngest childhood even to old age.

Verses five and seven again revert to the general theme of the futility of the idols.