

blessings although definitely including them and then in verse four to six we have the extension of His goodness to those who will accept Christ in any country or in any age and they also then are included in the people of God who are to have the blessings expressed in verse three. The theme of the permanence of God's salvation as compared with the _____ of human things wonderfully stressed in verses six and eight. Then it's interesting how in verse one the general sense of the context is so different from our first approach _____. "The hole of the pit whence ye are digged, and the rock whence ye are hewn" we usually think of as the condition of sin and misery from which God has saved us. It is a good phrase for that and the thought is used in the later parts of the passage but I question whether it is actually in verse one because in verse two it is explained what it means. It means Abraham and Sarah brought out alone out of Babylon where they were in the midst of sin all around but yet the particular theme of salvation that applied to them is not here _____. It is rather a deliverance bringing them out into a large place. While the idea is in general in what follows and I think we are justified in using the phrase in that sense. It is probably not in its immediate sense in verse one. We seem to have a section, a division of some importance between verse eleven of chapter fifty and the beginning of fifty-one in that it is probably the servant speaking and sums up the teaching of the previous chapter with its declaration of Christ's vicarious suffering for our sin but then it changes to this general call of God in 51:1 calling to His people to bring comfort, to bring promise of the extension of the Gospel and promise of His ultimate complete vindication but then between eight and nine we have a stop in this and we have possibly a new section beginning. Is it a new section or is it simply a verse or two which are interjected here? Certainly in verse nine the one who is speaking would be I should think the prophet or perhaps a chorus of angels of of the people. At any rate, it is not