

the Lord who calls on the arm of the Lord to put on strength. One who is thought of as listening to God's wonderful declaration in verses one to eight here says now these are wonderful promises let's see them fulfilled. Let's see the arm of the Lord which used to do such wonderful things do something now. Let's see the one that dried the sea in old days bring some means of deliverance now. Verses nine and ten then are a unit. Eleven is a conclusion from nine and ten. Just as in one and two we read God did these things to Abraham and Sarah. The One who did these things for them will, verse three tells us, comfort Zion. Now we hear God is the One who cut Rahab and wounded the dragon, dried the sea in the past. He is also going to bring back the ~~redemed~~ redeemed with everlasting joy on their heads. So eleven is a conclusion to nine and ten. So it seems that from verse twelve to sixteen it is the Lord God speaking. In verse fifteen He says, "I am the Lord thy God, that <sup>the</sup> divided the sea." The theme of/dividing of the sea seems to be rather prominent between verses nine and sixteen. The Lord is the One who comforts you, why then should you be afraid of a man? The Lord is the One who has created all things and He has put His words in thy mouth. Who is the "thy" there? Is He there talking to Isaiah, or to the servant of the Lord? "That I may plant the heavens, and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Thou art my people." I wonder just as a possible suggestion, whether we could have a progression of thought here in verses fourteen to sixteen again. God, the Creator of thirteen rescues the captive exile, loosens them, gives them His protection. But why does He do it? He does it in order that His Word may go out in order that He may say to Zion "Thou art my people." Now this I only make as a suggestion to consider but is it possible that we have here <sup>the idea</sup> of saved to serve? Deliverance from exile and oppression not merely ~~the~~ in order that one may enjoy things for himself but that He may take God's Word in his mouth and go out with God's protection as God's instrument for laying the foundation ~~for~~ of God's new earth.