Sent-3(10)

extreme, for in many cases they undoubtedly are right. I would insist, however, that we must never take for granted that a chapter division is right, but must always examine the passage to see whether the archbishop did a good job or not. In this case he seems to have done a very poor job. Between verses 5 and 6 there is a sharp break, much sharper than the break between chapters 1 and 2 or between chapters 2 and 3. It would be far better to have 2:1-5 form a chapter by itself.

This first passage of blessing in the book of Isaiah, together with its parallel in Micah, gives one of the clearest presentations of the Millennium in the entire Bible. Both passages make absolutely clear that the period described is something which is to take place on this earth. Micah shows this by the fact that he places it immediately after the verse telling that God is going to destroy Jerusalem and to cause it to be plowed as a field. The April of the phrases used in Micah 3:12 are repeated in Micah 4:15 showing the future exaltation of the very place where the destruction is to occur. Isaiah's introductory statement that this is his vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem also makes it evident that he is describing something which is to occur right on this earth.

It is clear in both passages that what is presented is the promise of a time of external peace and safety. This passage is not a promise that God will protect His people from dangers round about them. That is a great truth of Scripture, contained in many other passages, and fulfilled in many periods of the world's history. This passage, however, promises an entirely different type of period—a time when it will be unnecessary to have swords or spears. It will be a time when people can sit outdoors under their own vines and fig trees with nothing to fear because God will have removed everything that would