

the same way, with the servant's soliloquy. Verse 7 is introduced with the phrase thus saith the Lord, and verse 8 is again introduced the same way. Therefore, some think that verse 7 continues a portion of the soliloquy which includes quotations from God in verse 5 and 6. Yet it seems more likely that it is the Lord's direct, just as the Lord's direct statement to the servant, is found in verse 8 and following, that it is also here in 7 which ties closely with the material contained in those verses. It is interesting to note the close parallel between verse 7 ~~here~~ and the words at the end of <sup>Psalm</sup> chapter 22, where we read that the fat of the earth shall bow down and worship on account of what the Lord does. ~~A~~ statement which comes at the end of a chapter giving a marvelous description of crucifixion. It is also interesting to compare this passage with the beginning of our next main part of the book of consolation, where we read that kings are going to learn what they had not heard before, and that the very leaders of the earth are going to be affected by that which is done by one who is despised and rejected of men. Here we have a wonderful anticipation of that passage, in this statement in verse 7. To him whom man despises, to him whom ~~the~~ the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, kings shall see and arise, princes also will worship, they will do this because the Lord is faithful, and has brought to pass his marvelous promises that the work of the servant is to be fulfilled.

Verse 8 continues the Lord's answer to the servant's soliloquy. The power of the Lord is with the servant to accomplish his work. He is going to be preserved through all his difficulties and given for a covenant of the people in order to establish the earth on the footing on which it should stand, and to enable God's people to take over the areas which had been made desolate by the ravages of sin. Verse 9 ~~shows~~ shows quite clearly that it is the servant who is addressed rather than Israel, that thou mayest say to the prisoners, go forth; to them that are in darkness, show yourselves. This is exactly the work which we were told in chapter 42 that the servant was to fulfil, to bring forth those that are in the prison house, to deliver them, Here God says he is going to deliver them, to accomplish this work, to bring these people forth, and enable them to see feed on the highways, and to