

seeing I have lost my children?, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? who hath brought up these? Behold I was left alone; these, where had they been? Verse 22 gives the answer, that God lifts up His hand to the Gentiles, and brings sons for Israel from the most distant lands. Israel is thus promised marvelous physical blessing in days to come and also a great spiritual outreach as a result of the work of the servant who is doing the work that has been committed to Israel and which He represents ~~He~~ Israel in performing.

With verse 24 we come to the second question which is in the form of a complaint, or of an objection to God's wonderful promises. Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? God's answer to this is to extend His promises that with His great power ~~He~~ will overcome those who are oppressing Israel, and will give her deliverance from them (verse 25-26).

The first three verses of chapter 50 belong in this same section. It is unfortunate that the chapter division was not made three verses later. Verse 1 implies a repetition of the same question, in a slightly different form, as was contained in 49:14. Thus says the Lord, where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away. Or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? In other words, God is answering the complaint of Israel that He has put them away and sold them to His creditors. His answer is you have sold yourselves for your iniquities. It is the result of your transgressions that your mother was put away. Not of any arbitrary act or whim on the part of the Lord. And so in answering, in further answer to this objection, God proceeds to stress His great power. Why was there no one else to ~~en~~ help? Why did they not look to Him as they should have? Is His power come to nothing. He stresses His tremendous power over nature, and over the sea and over the heavens. Verse 3 really ought to be a part of verse 2. It would have been far better if verse 2 had been divided after the word answer or else after the word deliver. Either of these places would have made a much better division than the place at the end of verse 2. Verse 3, standing alone, seems to make some sort of a prediction of something in connection