

in verse 10.

The passage divides into three main parts. Verses 4-6 describe the work of the servant, verses 7-9 give the assurance of his success, and verses 10-11 show the varying attitudes that people will have toward him and the results that will follow such attitudes.

Verses 4-6 which describe the work of the servant show a definite progress. In verse 4 the servant refers to his speaking ministry, presenting the word of comfort that God desires him to give. Here we think of the wonderful teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. We read in the N.T. that the spirit rested upon him without measure. He was always ready to speak a word in season, to him that is weary. He had the tongue of the learned. Though not having been trained in the formal schools of the day, he was able to pierce to the very heart of every matter and to give the correct answer. A wonderful foreshadowing of the ~~new~~ marvelous teaching ministry of the servant of the Lord, is contained in verse 4. In verse 5, he proceeds to describe his obedience. Yet learned he obedience, his obedience. The Lord had opened his ear. He was not rebellious and did not turn away back. Some might suggest that this passage, in speaking of the servant of the Lord, is speaking of the nation of Israel. It is quite obvious however that verse 5 could not be a description of the nation of Israel. Time and again in these passages, God speaks strongly of the rebellion of the people of Israel, of their turning against him, as all men have, of their turning back and having to be forced by His marvelous power back onto the right road. Here the servant says, I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. We see Jesus Christ going forward to do what he knew was right, regardless of the difficulties, showing absolute obedience to His father. In verse 6 the thought is carried a step further and here there is a definite new revelation, a revelation that has hardly been hinted at previously. In chapters 42 and 49 we heard much about the great success of the servant. Much about his absolute confidence and calmness as he steps forward to be a light to the Gentiles, to bring judgment to all the world, with never --without any sign of undue haste, or any seeming great necessity of effort, or of any violence. Here we find something that we might not have suspected from those passages.