

four parts and each soldier took a part, the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout, and so instead of tearing it, they cast lots for it, fulfilling exactly the prediction in Psalm 22. This little matter, of no great importance to that which Christ accomplished, nevertheless serves as an incidental verification of the fact that David in writing Psalm 22 spoke as the mouthpiece of God and that Jesus Christ in fulfilling it was carrying out the work which God had so long before predicted.

The two types of prediction can similarly be observed in Isaiah 53. Psalm 22 described for us the inner feelings of Christ as He was crucified; Isaiah 53 gives us the picture as it was viewed by those around Him. It shows Him bearing our sins upon the cross, silent before His oppressors as a lamb before its shearers is dumb. It points out the wonderful accomplishments of His death. If one goes through Chapter 53 one can note that every phrase in it but one directly tells of the exaltation of Christ or of His humiliation or of the redemption which He accomplished. The one exception is in verse nine, which reads: "And he made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death." There is no exaltation for Him in being after death in the tomb of a rich man. Neither, certainly, is it any special humiliation, nor does it add anything to His redemptive work. It is an incidental touch which certainly could not have been foreseen by a writer 700 years before, even if that writer had known the fact that He would die on the cross for the sins of His people. The exact fulfillment of this incidental prediction when Joseph of Arimathea laid him in his own tomb proves that Isaiah actually spoke as the mouthpiece of God in predicting these great things that God would accomplish seven hundred years later and that Jesus Christ in His death was indeed the very one predicted by Isaiah.

Thus we have noted in the story of Deborah and Barak something of the wonderful way in which God wrought deliverance by His might and through His wisdom to His people and have seen how He authenticated the fact that it was He who did it by the incidental prediction which He gave in addition to the organic one. We have noticed also that in Psalm 22 and In Isaiah 53 this element is also present.