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ations of coming blessing and encouragement for the people of God. Among the many instances of such sharp transition the following might be noted: Isa 1:31 to 2:1-5; 4:1 to vv.2-6; 42:24-25 to 43:1ff; Micah 2:11 to vv. 12-13; 3:12 to 4:1. It is as if the prophet addressed the nation as a whole, declaring God's wrath upon its sin and failure, and then turned His attention to the small group of the godly. These were members of the nation and realized themselves to be implicated in its sin. Their hearts were burdened by the general attitude and they knew that they also were culpable, yet they longed to turn to God with their whole hearts and wished that the entire nation might be won back to God. Hearing the prophet's rebuke and knowing how well deserved it was, they tended to give way to despair. It is particularly to these people and to their counterpart in future ages that God addresses Himself in assuring them that, though the punishment for sin is bound to come, God has ultimate purposes of great blessing for His people. Most of the great Messianic passages are found in sections of this type.

3. Revelation of Facts about God and