301 ISAIAH 40-66

God's people have to labor without enjoying what they produce. Those who do the work are to enjoy the fruit. It is God's will that His faithful people should always stand for justice in every relationship of life; yet they should not expect the establishment of complete or lasting justice in this age, for only in the Millennium will justice prevail universally.

It was quite a thrill to find in an editorial in Life magazine for February 9, 1948 a quotation from the second president of the United States which showed that this distinguished American founder was clearly a premillennialist in his interpretation of Scripture. The purpose of the editorial on Gandhi (p. 32) was to show that, important as love is as a means of accomplishment in the world, other means are also necessary. It quotes John Adams as follows: "Human appetites, passions, prejudices and self-love will never be conquered by benevolence and knowledge alone, introduced by human means. The millennium itself neither supposes nor implies it. All civil government is then to cease, and the Messiah is to reign." It is striking to see that this great American considered premillennialism to be the clear teaching of the Scripture.

Since verse 9 completes the second of the sections of our present passage which deal with the Millennium, we shall now examine the question: do the verses here and in chapter 60 have reference only to the time of the millennial reign of Christ, or is there any proper way in which they may be applied to the present age? In answer it should be said that while their primary meaning is undoubtedly a description of the millennial age, it is not at all out of place to point out the relevance to our present period of many of the principles involved. In the Millennium Jesus Christ will reign over every aspect of life in this world; during the present age He reigns in the hearts of those who are redeemed and He desires those whom He has redeemed to display in their lives many of the features which He will some day make universal. Therefore many of the principles set forth in these chapters find a true, though limited, exemplification wherever the true church of God is active. It is altogether proper for the church to take these principles as ideals and to endeavor to exemplify them in its life and in the relationship of its members to each other. Yet it is vital to remember that as long as