

Every other has failed God at some point or~~o~~ other. This One was absolutely true to the work to which God called Him.

In verse six we have the voluntary suffering of Christ. It is utterly different from the involuntary suffering which Israel went through for its own sin. He went as a lamb to the slaughter and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth. He hid not His face from shame and spitting but willingly offered Himself a ransom for many.

In verse seven He declares that with the help of God He set His face as a flint to perform the work that God gave Him. We read in Luke 9:53 that He set His face to go up to Jerusalem. He knew what was ahead of Him there but nothing <sup>C</sup>ould deter Him from doing His Father's will.

Perhaps in verses eight and nine we hear the Servant continuing to speak and declaring His certainty that God will enable Him to carry out the work to which He has been called. It is more likely, however, that the speaker in these verses is one of those who believe in the finished work of Christ; joyfully he proclaims that the One who has justified him is near, and that consequently, he fears no one. He is ready to face the adversary in the knowledge that he is perfectly safe because God has procured his justification, and God is ready to protect him. All who oppose the work of God shall wax old as a garment, and moths shall eat them up. Only those who are true to the Lord remain safe forever.

#### TWO POSSIBLE FATES

Verses ten and eleven contain a declaration addressed to two classes of people: those who fear the Lord, and those who kindle opposition to Him. The first class is urged to trust in the Lord. "In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in