

If He is not using you while you are in seminary, the probabilities are you won't be much use to Him after you get out. Whom shall I send and who will go for us? God is calling us to study to learn His truth. He is calling us to use it for Him, to go out and to accomplish His purposes.

Now there are ~~sevr~~ several more vv. in the chapter == we won't have time to go into them in any detail today, but I just want to note, to call your attention to how Isaiah must have felt. God said, Whom shall I send; who will go for us? And Isaiah said Here am I send me. And God said, That's wonderful! Isaiah you are going to be a great servant of mine. I'm so happy you are going to serve me.' That is not what He said. God said, Go and tell this people, Hear ye indeed and understand not, see ye indeed and perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat and their ears heavy. And Isaiah said, Lord, How long. And He said, Till the cities be wasted without inhabitants, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolated.

Some people think that once you offer yourself for the Lord's service, then everything is just going to be smooth and nice. Well, God sometimes takes His servants and makes a smooth, straight path before them and everything goes fine. But with most of us He knows that we can't stand that kind of prosperity. With most of us, He sends difficulties into our lives. He sends ^{problems} ~~problems~~. We have to face situations somewhat like Isaiah had to face here. And God wants us to be ready. He wants us to be ready to serve Him when the sun shines. But he wants us to be ready to serve Him when the rain comes down and the difficulties come. To persevere and press forward, and to know He wants our service under all conditions, and that even if we seem to make little headway, even if ^{things} ~~things~~ don't seem to go right, that if we truly have our eyes on Him