

Paul quotes the first verse and he quotes the last phrase of the last verse and the middle part he just drops out and puts in something altogether different. Now why does he do that? Is it not fair to say that Paul must be either paraphrasing or reminding of what is in the Old Testament? He is not saying, "That's what Isaiah said but I want to give you something different." He is here building on the Old Testament. He is giving an argument from the Old Testament. He is discussing a matter, "Which is better for you to talk a great deal in a way in which nobody can understand you, or is it better to give some clear teaching that God wants people to have? Now," he says, "What do we find in the Old Testament? about speaking with tongues? What do we find about speaking in a language that is incomprehensible to the people? Well," he says, "Isaiah said 'With men of other tongues and of other lips will I speak to this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.' Yet for all what. Is it just because he speaks in other tongues, or does "yet for all that" mean, what it means in Isaiah where says that "to whom he said This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear." Does not Paul mean, "And yet for all that wonderful thing that Isaiah points out, they wouldn't hear, and therefore God spoke to them in this way, because they wouldn't hear the clear teaching of Isaiah, precept upon precept, line upon line, because they wouldn't listen to the beautiful words that you will find your comfort in God and you'll find your rest in Him, they wouldn't do that, therefore God sent upon them the people, the Assyrians, who talked in a harsh, barbarian language. They were to them as barbarians, as Paul said in an earlier verse. They couldn't understand them. That was God's punishment to them and His means of chastening His own people and of bringing home to them the necessity of listening to the clear teaching which we find in His word. It's so easy for us to read the words and find in them wonderful teachings somebody/ought to get, and just pass over lightly the clear, simple teaching that applies to our hearts and our own lives, and when we do we must pray that God will send us severe chastening in order to drive us to His word to take out the beam that is in our own eye before we are so ready