

Prophets 13

the multitude of thy strangers like small dust," or "it shall come to pass, the multitude of thy strangers like small dust." There is a change. Here are these great numbers of attackers of Jerusalem. They are fearing complete destruction by the armies of nations far stronger than they but God says, "The multitude becomes like small dust, like chaff that passeth away, at an instant, suddenly," a marvelous interposition of God that Isaiah is here promising. This is God's hearth, there's suffering and misery in it, but God is going to give indication that His hand is there by a remarkable act taking place which you would never expect. "Thou shalt be visited of the Lord, there shall come there an earthquake and great noise and storm and tempest, and flame of devouring fire, and the multitude of all the nations that fight against Ariel, even all that fight against her and her munition, and that distress her, shall be as a dream of a night vision." It will seem as if it was never there. They'll hardly be able to believe it was there, it will be so different. It's all gone, everything is peaceful, and calm, and you just can't believe this terrific danger was there just a short time before, so complete and sudden is the change, so we have this striking transition between 4 and 5 where " " would be much better translated by "but" than by "moreover", but the fact they used the "moreover" shows that the translators recognized that there was considerable of a change, enough to require a strong word to show a passage from one area to the other, but the "moreover" in English, of course, means "another thing similar", and that isn't in " ". " " may be similar, it may be different, and " " certainly means different, and it will come to pass. And so v. 8—it will be such a sudden, complete change, it isn't a matter of driving away or destroying the enemy until you gradually get used to the change, it's just such a sudden change that it seems as if you've been dreaming and you wake up. That's the way, of course, with sudden change. You can hardly believe it. It seems like a dream, while a gradual change, you gradually get something little by little by little and you are fully accustomed to the idea because of the gradual accomplishment of it. So here is a marvelous interposition of God predicted.