

Isaiah 4

or something like that. We had no such interruption as that to this class but we did have, I had to miss this class two or three times and I was very sorry because there is so much material we would like to get over. I could very nicely use those two or three extra hours now on the two vital chapters which now remain. They are extremely important chapters. At the same time, we spent a great deal of time on the first two chapters of our section and I don't think that time was spent simply in considering those chapters but to quite an extent was gaining methods and understanding of means of approach and consequently can make it possible somewhat more rapidly over these chapters here.

The first thing that occurs to one here is, of course, this question. We have Isaiah 63:7. I believe--63:6 was the end of the last section. 63:7 begins the new section. Of that there is no question. Now the question that is occurs, is 63:7 to the end of the book a unified section or is it a group of distinct sections with no relation to each more than they have to the book as a whole. Is it one section or is it several comparatively unrelated sections? Well, now of course one has a right to make his own judgment according to the content of the material. If you have reason to think that it is much better interpreted as a number of small sections it is your privilege to advance that interpretation. We know that in the book of Proverbs we have sections which are made up of isolated verses, each of which is a complete discussion to itself. Now in the book of Isaiah we do not have, I think, sections which are made up of isolated verses. Isaiah is a series of connected discourses, discourses of much greater length than isolated verses, and it is the great loss of the Christian world that to so great an extent its understanding of the book of Isaiah has been based upon individual verses taken out of context instead of upon the understanding of the sections of the book interpreted as a whole. Thus the question whether 63:7 to the end of 66 is one section paralleling the section from

tain aspects which would only be part of the nation, but dealing with rescue