

Isaiah 5

related to the rebuke which is contained in the early part of the chapter. Then it seems to me that this Chapter 65 is a definite unit, that it is distinct from 66. There is no question, of course, that it is distinct from 64, because the very rendering makes a sharp distinction between the prayer of 64 and that which is contained in 65. I believe most commentators take the last part of 65 as definitely the answer to the prayer of 64. I don't see any way to avoid that. Now if you are going to take the last part of 65 as the definite answer, it seems rather strange not to take the first part as also in some way a part of the answer unless, of course, you take the liberal idea that thinks that we have in the book of Isaiah all sorts of interpolations, anywhere from one verse to three or four chapters just stuck in with no relation to what precedes or what follows. But if you consider the book as a unit given us by the Spirit of God and if the latter part of 65 is the answer to the prayer, it is very strange if the first part is not also a portion of the answer, and if the first part is a portion of the answer it is rather strange that there should be so much rebuke in an answer to a prayer like this unless the prayer is recognized as having that right in the prayer which deserves rebuke, and I pointed out to you last time, what I think it is. Now it is a very interesting confirmation of this view of it that Verses 1 and 2 are quoted by the Apostle Paul in the New Testament. We find them quoted there by him and interpreted by him, and when we find a New Testament interpretation of an Old Testament passage it is always worth considering carefully to see just what is contained there. We find that in the New Testament we find that in Chapter 10 of the book of Romans these two verses are definitely quoted. In the end of the chapter we read, "but I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are no people, and by a foolish nation I will anger you. But Isaiah is very bold and says, I was found of them that sought me not: I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me. But to ^{Israel} ~~Isaiah~~ he says, All day long have I stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people. And he continues