

...well, in verse 5 we continue, his judgment is with the Lord and his work is God's. Now says the Lord who formed me from the womb to be his servant and to bring Jacob again to him. Is this Israel talking? who said he's formed to bring Jacob again to him. That doesn't sound reasonable, does it? He is Israel, God's servant. Thou art my servant, O Israel. And yet he says I've been formed from the womb to bring Jacob again to me. And so your servant ^{is} Israel definitely, and yet ~~he~~ ^{he} is not Israel. We've had in ~~some~~ ^{two} of the previous chapters, case after case, Israel, Israel, God's servant. There are other cases, it doesn't say, and you might say, well, (1 1/4) these or someone else. You can't do that here. Because here he is explicitly told, it is thou art my servant, O Israel, and yet he says he is going to bring Israel to him. So the servant is ~~Israel~~ and yet he is not Israel. There's a ^{problem.} prophecy. How can the servant be Israel, and yet not be Israel? Well, what does he say? Now says the Lord that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God shall be my strength. Here is a servant who is Israel, and yet who is not Israel, so in a definite sense could be said to be not Israel, even if (2) remain in exile. Even if Israel were not gathered, yet the servant could be spoken of as being glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and his God being (2 1/4)

What can the answer be? to this? There must be a logical relation whereby it can be figured. And the figure that Dalish gave that I put on the board last time we were together is one of the most artificial unsatisfactory means of giving an answer to it that I ever heard. I see no help whatever but it seems to me that logically there is a relationship which can possibly give a natural answer. The servant can be Israel without being all of Israel. He can be a part of Israel, he can be a portion of Israel which represents Israel and which carries out the work that Israel is doing.