

Prophets -18-

received His blessing, the blessing of Him who was to be a light to the Gentiles? Well, it is interesting that, we find that there is historical evidence that at this time there was a section of China which was in the far west in China which was called Sin, and this section of China which was then called Sin was a section which would rather naturally be the first to be entered by a traveler if he went from Palestine to China or from Syria clear across the desert that long trip to China and we have found a few things of Chinese origin in Mesopotamia from an earlier date than this and a few things--the Chinese system of writing almost certainly came from Mesopotamia originally, and that was quite a considerable time before this that the \_\_\_\_\_ went from Mesopotamia to China from which the Chinese system of writing developed. Therefore there was an interrelation, an intercourse, there were caravans, to some extent at least, which were going over part of the area between Palestine and China and the China, of course, did not call themselves by this name and do not today. I forget what the modern name of China is to the Chinese but it is not China. They have a different designation for it. But this is the name which might quite naturally be given to it by a man coming from the western part of Asia. The people from Europe entered a small peninsula called Asia, and then we gave the name to the whole continent, and so from the name of Asia we came to call the whole continent Asia and that section we now call Asia Minor. The French enter Germany and they come through a small section where a tribe called Alamanni lived and so they call the whole Alleman, after these people who lived in this section immediately next to them, and illustrations of that could be multiplied in history, of places being named after that section of them which is first entered, not the place takes that name but it is so called by people from a distance. And therefore you might say right away Isaiah is referring to this small section of China which is the first one entered by visitors from the west. Why should he pick that one and just mean that? Is it not more likely that he is using that one as a symbol for all of China? Then it is very interesting, that after the time when this happened, when Isaiah wrote, I forget the date, but some time after that a powerful