

Prophets -2.

adversary? Let him come near me. Assurance of victory. Assurance that His course is to be justified. Assurance that He is going to accomplish His work. Behold, the Lord God will help me. Who is he that shall condemn me? Lo, they shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up.

V. 9 doesn't surely seem to fit with the prophet very well. It fits rather with one who is accused of things of which he is not guilty. That would fit Israel better than with the prophet but with the perfect servant of God best of all. Then v. 10. Who is among you that fear the Lord, that obey the voice of his servant, that walks in darkness and has no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord and stay upon his God. And so v. 10 fits right with the previous verse. Now the copy of the Authorized Version which I have in front of me here starts a new paragraph with v. 10. Do you think that v. 10 and v. 11 form one paragraph together, Mr.---? What is the thought of v. 10? What is verse 10 expressing? (Student) Well, more than exhortation, isn't it? Well, I guess perhaps not. It is exhortation to trust the Lord, and what is v. 11? Does v. 11 show what is going to happen if they do trust the Lord? Does/show the wonderful blessing which comes to those who trust the Lord, to fulfill what is in v. 10? How many think it does? Raise your hands. How many think it does not? Quite a few. Well, why not, Mr.---? (Student) This is the opposite of blessing. V. 11 is punishment. You shall lie down in sorrow. You that, instead of trusting God and receiving the light that comes from the servant, who is to be a light to the Gentiles, you kindle your own fire. You that think that you, with your own human understanding, and your own clever plans, are going to build up that which will justify yourselves and which will satisfy you and give you peace and comfort, he says, walk in the light of your fire and the sparks you've kindled. He says, "if you think you can do it, well let's see you do it. Let's see you win happiness and peace and joy with your human, manmade schemes." Christianity has a record of men turned from darkness to light, turned from the vilest of sin into becoming men of godly lives through the power of the gospel and those who come along to day and explain it, saying,