

40.27 and speak O Israel. My way is hid from the Lord," Which is of course his comforting. Why do you think you are forgotten. Why this great God, your great God is powerful, and omnipotent. Verse 28, "Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard," ~~that~~ ~~that~~ The power of God. Then His power showing itself in deliverance. Verse 29 to 31. Which can be applied immediately and directly to the return from Babylon. But there is no explicit mention anywhere in the chapter of the return from Babylon, or of the gods of Babylon. That is what it starts with, but it is so given that it can be a summary of these themes, in a much larger area than just that.

And then in chapter 41, He begins looking at specific immediate situations. We take the same theme, but we look at them in the immediate situation of the exile. And as we go on, we find by logic of our consideration, certain new themes forcing themselves upon our attention, which in time comes to be the most important in this whole section here, and it results in a better understanding of the themes taken up in chapter 40. Now 41, He speaks directly, "Keep silence before me, O islands." Now this word, ~~islands~~ islands, in the Hebrew is not quite the same as our English word island. It means coastland or island. Land by the sea, or in the sea, he is referring here to all the area, through the west. Over across the Mediterranean, and up in Asia Minor. "Let the people renew their strength. Let them come near, and let them speak. ~~Let them come near to judgment.~~ Let us come near to gether to judgment." God is declaring His power to them.

P. 4. (Isaiah 41:2.

41.2 "Who raised up the righteous man from the east." Here we have a sharp change from chapter 40 where we were dealing with a general theme. Now we deal with a specific illustration. "Who raised up the righteous man from the east." Who is the righteous man of the east? Is that one of the three wise men who came to see Christ? Is that in some way a reference to Christ Himself, or who is it a reference to? The righteous man from the east, "called him to his foot, put the nations under him, and made him rule over kings? He gave them as the dust to his sword, and as driven stubble to his bow." Who is this righteous man from the east? Who the people in exile will be addressed, and told and referred to as one with whom they are familiar. God says, "Who has raised up this great one?" This one has pursued them, and has gone on with out - passed over safely.