

character or give the wonderful teaching which Christ did.

But a better ~~am~~ way, and an easier way to get around the Old Testament predictions of Christ, is the way the R.S.V. does with the change in the text of the Old Testament so that it no longer fits with what Christ did. But if we look at the original we find that it is there, this prediction that way. He really did.

Well now, the Lord is stressing in these chapters this argument of predicted prophecy more than any where else in the Scripture. This is the section on predicted prophecy in the Bible. These chapters. And the reason is of course, because the people are in a situation where it is particularly needed. They are in exile, in bondage, all visible evidences of God and His power, His temple has disappeared, and it is a time when they need something to which they can cling. And He gives them this argument from predicted prophecy.

And so He speaks to the idols in verse 22 following, "Let them bring forth, and show us what shall happen. Let them show the former things, what they are, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we ~~m~~ may know that ye are gods. Yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together." It reminds you of Elijah on Mount Carmel, how he taunts the priests of Baal. Call aloud to him for he is god. Perhaps he is asleep. Wake him up, so he'll come and help you. God here addresses the idols. "Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods. Yes, do good or do harm." Do anything, so that we can find proof that you really are gods. And his conclusion is, in verse 24, "Behold, ye are ~~g~~othing, and your work of nought, an abomination is he that chooses you." The theme of idols and the theme of omniscience, that He combines here, in this passage.

And then in contrast to that, the omnipotence of God, verse 25, and I think that perhaps you might put on a minor theme of Cyrus, as an evidence of the omnipotence of God, because this is the second time we've had reference to it. "I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come. From the rising of the sun". (That is, from the east, from the north east then, "shall he call upon my name. And he shall come upon princes as upon mortar, and as the potter treads clay. Who has declared from the beginning, that we may ~~am~~ know? And beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous?" He goes back to the