

more, coming to the front, and we are more and more becoming conscious of it, as the vital problem back of it all, which God is gradually bringing to their attention. And so now He puts more attention to it for that, than most any chapter yet in this section. You see how utterly different it is from the rebuke passages in Jeremiah, and in the early part of Isaiah. There He condemns the nation for the sin, you are to go and to exile if you don't repent. But beyond the exile, there is blessing.

Now He says, you are in exile, you are going to be delivered. God is going to deliver you, and He says, you don't deserve it. He says, you've got this sin. You went into exile, because of your sin, and you are still in your sin. And so he says, they make mention of the God of Israel, but not in truth and righteousness. They stay themselves upon the Lord, he says, but it is just a lot of names. Here's his omniscience, "I have decared the former things out of my mouth, I showed them, but I did them suddenly." He sent ~~him~~ them into exile, just as He sent they were. And He is going to bring them back, from exile, and He is telling ~~them~~ it. What? Verse 4, "Because I knew that thou art obstinate, and thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow brass." He knows their obstinacy, and their stubbornness, and therefore He predicts in advance, what He is going to do. Why did He do that? He says, "I have even from the beginning declared it to thee, lest it come to pass - before it come to pass I showed it thee, lest thou shouldest say, Mine idol hath done them, and my graven image, and my molten image, hath commanded them." He says, if I don't say in advance what I'm going to do, you just sa y, well the idols did it. Or you are going to say it was our good ~~fm~~ brains. It was our clever plan. It was our skillful efforts. So, He says, I am predicting in advance, so that you cannot say when it comes to pass, that anything caused it, except the Lord's definite action. Because otherwise, you would say that the idols did it. He shows the obstinatcy, the stubbornness, of the wicked human heart, much of which ~~He~~ remains ~~mamas~~ in the regenerate heart.

48:6 "Thou hast ^{heard} heart, see all this; and will ye not declare it? I have showed thee new things from this time, even hidden things, and thou didst not know them. They are created now, and not from the beginning, lest thou shouldest say, Behold, I knew them." He says, I knew you would be a , you were called a transgressor, but for my names sake I will remove my anger. And for my praise will I refrain forever, that I