

vision of the omnipotent effort that establishes truth and righteousness and justice. Verse 4 tells further of his confidence and his certainty in his work. He will not fail nor be discouraged till his work is accomplished. As we read this we wonder how this can be a description of Israel. We have read that Israel is in suffering and bondage, under the heel of the Babylonian conqueror. How can anyone say that Israel will never fail nor be discouraged. This is the picture, not of what Israel is but of the work that Israel is called upon to do, giving the blueprint not merely for the work but for the method in which the work will be accomplished. Till he have set judgment in the earth--this phrase alone, one could wonder, one could think that it means simply establishing true justice in the land of Israel, for the word here rendered earth can mean the entire globe or it can ~~mean~~ refer only to one particular land, such as the land of Israel, the land of Egypt, and so forth. However, the continuation shows definitely that far more than one nation is involved. We've already noticed that this common phrase, isles, is regularly used in the prophets to indicate the distant lands of Greece, the great culture centers of the world ^{to the west} ~~outside of~~ Palestine. They, even these, are to be molded by the instructions and the plan of justice that the servant of the Lord is to bring to them.

These first four verses could be considered as a complete picture of the task set before the servant. However, ~~there is~~ the task continues further but is interrupted by verse 5. The magnitude of the objective described in these four verses staggers the imagination. To think of Israel in exile, in suffering, in misery, having placed before it the responsibility to bring light to all the nations, and to bring the law of justice to the distant islands of Greece seems almost like presenting what is absolutely impossible to a suffering and stricken people. It is ^{indeed} ~~is~~ impossible, were it not that the Lord has called for this task to be done and placed the responsibility upon Israel for its fulfillment. We can be sure that it ^{will} ~~won't~~ be done because of who God is and ~~what~~ because of the power that he possesses. Therefore, there is urgent need of stress upon the motif of the power of God, and verse 5 brings that motif strongly before us. Thus saith ~~God~~ the Lord God ~~that~~ created the heavens and stretched them out, he that spread forth the earth and that which cometh out from it. Here we have the whole of the universe described. Everything