

God has declared in advance and they've come to pass. Now he is going to declare new things. There is just this brief touch upon this thought in the midst of this section of general praise to God and exhortation to all men of every type to honor him.

Part III, Deliverance Promised, Verses 13 to 17.

Here we return to one of our main themes of our whole symphony. God is not merely going to talk but going to act. God does not merely predict what is going to happen, He is going to make it happen. God is going to go forth with tremendous power and show himself in great activity. This section of ~~four~~ five verses starts with three of them which speak in a rather general sense of the Lord as roaring, devouring, destroying, making things waste, drying up the pools, overwhelming the enemies. It is quite a different picture from the picture of the work that the servant is called upon to do as shown in the sharply contrasting passage with which the chapter begins. The ideal is before the people as to what they are responsible to fulfill. They are, however, in captivity and in misery, God is going to deliver them. The deliverance will involve great convulsions of the nations, and overthrows of existing powers and God describes it in very graphic language in these three verses.

Verse 16 turns to the gentler aspect of his activity. His enemies he will destroy and devour, but he will lead the blind by a way that they know not, and make darkness light before them and crooked things straight. He will do these things for them and will never forsake them. It is a wonderful picture of God's love and tenderness toward his people and must have brought great comfort to the hearts of the exiles as they read these words. The passage however ends quite fittingly with another contrast between God and the idols. God's people will be ~~brought~~ brought in paths that they haven't known and have everything straightened out before them but those who are trusting in graven images will be turned back and will be greatly ashamed.

Part IV, The Frustrated Servant.

Chapter 42 is in some ways one of the most dramatic chapters in the whole Bible. Among its many elements of drama, none is more striking than the marked contrast between