

woe unto me! the treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously; yea, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously."

Here is a presentation that seems quite different from anything earlier in the chapter. One wonders who is speaking. Could it be one of those who were heard singing the songs of glory to the righteous God? Do they come to realize that some treachery has occurred? Has an enemy crept in and planted tares? Does the phrase, "My leanness, my leanness" express disappointment that the great amount of fruit that might have been expected has failed to materialize?

Here we naturally think of events of the past century. Only a little more than a generation ago the cry was widely heard, "The evangelization of the world in this generation." Yet today there are more heathen in the world than there were a century ago. Only a short time ago many American denominations were sending missionaries to the far corners of the earth, leading countless souls to salvation through faith in the atoning death of Jesus Christ, the Saviour, and in the teaching of the Scriptures. Today many old-line denominational missions are largely controlled by individuals who are convinced that the Bible is to a great extent a combination of myths and legends, and that no statement in it is dependable except as it may happen to coincide with their own philosophical or speculative ideas. A century ago, in the United States there were churches on almost every corner proclaiming the Gospel of Christ. Today many of them are merely discussing sociology. How does this fit with Isaiah's prophecy? As God gave him this wonderful vision of the future, Isaiah saw that God was not ending His witness to lost humanity. God was not through with Israel. Israel would return from exile and would again become an instrument for the preservation of the name of God and for the bringing of His Son into the world. It would be a center from which the Word of God would be made known throughout the world. But the spreading throughout the world would not be simply a joyous progress of victory. It is God's will that it