

expectation that this would lighten the burden of the people and make their conformity easier.

3. Discussion

a. The General prophecy:

The general prophecy may be developed along these lines:

(1) God predicts a return from the land of captivity with the renewed possession and enjoyment of their own land. (30:1-3)

(2) Because the word of fear is out in the people, God tells them of a yet more fearful time to come...but a time which will be consummated in His will and from which they will be joined again to their land. (30:4-9) (TVT thinks this is a distant reference to the Great Tribulation of which the then persecution was a forerunner.)

(3) God will give a great recovery... still dealing with the sin of his people but restoring them to Himself and their land. (30:10-11)

(4) Eventually all foes will be overcome (30:16) and there will be a time of blessing and peace in the presence of a messianic governor (vs. 21) that the nation cannot now conceive or it.

In other words...there is immediate blessing in return from Babylon...other trials will follow but there will be ultimate blessing in a kingdom that will be their own and a righteousness that will be characteristic of God.

b. The Particular Application

This is given in vs.12-15. The intention of the prediction sequence is to show Israel (Judah) that they (he, she, it) have no helpers but the Lord and that they should be on with the business of trusting Him. Their wound is incurable...it is the wound of sin.. the judgment is the just dealing of God...but, in the light of whom He is and what He will do, they should content themselves with Him and bow to the delight of His will. No one else can help...in fact, no one else wants to help. They