

- “Keep on hearing, but do not understand;  
keep on seeing, but do not perceive.”
- 10 Make the heart of this people dull,  
and their ears heavy,  
and blind their eyes;  
lest they see with their eyes,  
and hear with their ears,  
and understand with their hearts,  
and turn and be healed.”
- 11 Then I said, “How long, O Lord?”  
And he said:  
“Until cities lie waste  
without inhabitant,  
and houses without people,  
and the land is a desolate waste,  
12 and the LORD removes people far away,  
and the forsaken places are many in the midst of  
the land.
- 13 And though a tenth remain in it,  
it will be burned again, (just when you think it  
cannot get any worse -  
it does.)  
like a terebinth or an oak,  
whose stump remains  
when it is felled.”
- The holy seed is its stump.

7.1-12.6 THE COMING HOPE OF ZEMMANUEL FOR TRUE DELIVERANCE

↓ Isaiah Sent to King Ahaz \*

7 In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could not yet mount an attack against it. <sup>2</sup>When

\* THIS DATES THIS SECTION.

- THIS people is the key here. They have strayed so far they must be punished. God will withhold His mercy for a time. This in contrast to when the wicked will be sent away for eternity. (see Mt 25:46) They are not referred to as "MY PEOPLE" but are "THIS PEOPLE." The hardening of their hearts is because they are so far from God's truth the preaching of truth is rejected by them. It must be hard to get a call that promises rejection and rebellion. God sent Him w/ the message. They were being given one last opportunity. God's love sent Isaiah to a stubborn people.
1. How long was Isaiah to preach to unrepentant people. IF THEY reject the message, was he to keep preaching? Yes, because he did not know who was the holy seed that God would save.
2. How long would this rejection of the message continue? Was there any hope of their repentance?

11-13 the answer to How long was heart-breaking and had to be discouraging to Isaiah. Total destruction, slavery in a foreign land. Even when only 10% remain they will be burned to purify the final seed (stump) needs to begin again. Their sin was so total they would suffer the penalty of their ways. No preaching would show no immediate results, yet there is hope in the holy seed. This Holy seed is Boucarment and the coming promised Messiah that shall bring holiness to the Kingdom of God on earth. THIS HOPE IS VITAL TO THE BELIEVERS TO HOLD ON IN THE TOUGHEST TIMES.

① Verse one is much like 2 Kings 16:5 but then proceeds to add more details here.

King AHAZ LOOKS TO A FOREIGN ALLIANCE INSTEAD OF TRUSTING GOD. ISAIAH WANTS AGAINST THIS. THEN ISAIAH SHOWS THE LENGTH OF TIME IT WILL TAKE BY POINTING TO THE VIRGIN AND IMMANUEL. ANY RELIEF BEFORE THIS COMING MESSIAH IS TEMPORAL AND TEMPORARY.

the house of David was told, "Syria is in league with Ephraim," the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind.

<sup>3</sup> And the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Washer's Field. <sup>4</sup> And say to him, 'Be careful, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint because of these two smoldering stumps of firebrands, at the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria and the son of Remaliah. <sup>5</sup> Because Syria, with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah, has devised evil against you, saying, <sup>6</sup> "Let us go up against Judah and terrify it, and let us conquer it for ourselves, and set up the son of Tabeel as king in the midst of it," <sup>7</sup> thus says the Lord God:

"It shall not stand,  
and it shall not come to pass.

<sup>8</sup> For the head of Syria is Damascus,  
and the head of Damascus is Rezin.

And within sixty-five years  
Ephraim will be shattered from being a people.

<sup>9</sup> And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, (ISRAEL N. Kingdom)  
and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah.

(b) If you are not firm in faith,  
you will not be firm at all."

### The Sign of Immanuel

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test."

SIGN why to experience God's presence and guidance. It may be supernatural (Ex. 7.8ff; Jdg 6.17ff; 1 Kings 13; Isa 38.7, 22) or it may be ordinary (Gen 24.14; 1 Sam. 10.2ff)

(2) This alliance was of two powerful enemies. In counting the cost, the King saw no hope. Fear gripped the nation.

Shear-jashub means "a remnant shall return." Even the son's name is about prophecy. This both shows the coming judgment and restoration.

(4) When God sends a message it comes with a calming call to "Fear not." To hear the words and then actually apply them are two very different things in the life of a believer.

Smoldering stumps These kings are not as they seem. The picture of a stump is to show that their power and reign are coming to an end. These stumps have been burned and are ready to be removed or replaced.

(5) Cause and effect. Evil plans God is ready to respond. Yet it must always be remembered, Judah and Israel have brought this upon themselves in their actions and rejection of God's love.

(7) The plans of men are subject to the approval of God. Sixty-five years for those suffering this would be an eternity. But in God's timetable it was not even a heartbeat. Judgment is coming and it will be complete. Israel has rejected God and will be judged.

(9b) Nothing else matters if you are not completely committed to God. Faith is the anchor of the soul. This is why judgment is coming.

(10) The King is challenged to seek direction from God, but in His fear He refuses to trust God. When trusting God is seen as a test instead of an act of faith the person is in deep spiritual trouble. The King wants to be done with the prophet and any talk of God so he refused to ask for a sign. Ahaz is going to follow his own counsel, he does not need God.

13 And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. 17 The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!"

\*plural to \*  
w/ House nation

15 He shall be mature. Jesus was 30 to start His ministry.

18 In that day the LORD will whistle for the fly that is at the end of the streams of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria. 19 And they will all come and settle in the steep ravines, and in the clefts of the rocks, and on all the thornbushes, and on all the pastures.

20 In that day the Lord will shave with a razor that is hired beyond the River—with the king of Assyria—the head and the hair of the feet, and it will sweep away the beard also.

21 In that day a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep, 22 and because of the abundance of milk that they give, he will eat curds, for everyone who is left in the land will eat curds and honey.

23 In that day every place where there used to be a thousand vines, worth a thousand shekels of silver, will become briers and thorns. 24 With bow and arrows a man will come there, for all the land will be briers and thorns. 25 And as for all the hills that used to be hoed with a hoe, you will not come there for fear of briers and thorns, but they will become a place where cattle are let loose and where sheep tread.

13-16 God will give a sign anyway, Judge the nation and show His longrange plans for humanity's redemption. The judgment of Judah was also a sign that Messiah would come. These are reflective prophecies, each pointing to the other. They both happening proves God's divine watching over humanity. He (God) speaks and it will come to pass. He should see Judah's punishment & the Messiah SIGNS PROOF of His total control over events millennium in advance of completion.

17 The coming judgment will be severe. Even as Ephraim (Israel) turned away and was judged, God will also judge them.

king of Assyria. The king was shown his real enemy and the power to come that he was unaware of as his enemy.

virgin word used is 'almeh,' which always refers to an unmarried girl or woman. The etymological debate around this word is undoubtedly caused by those who reject the supernatural events of God. A girl having a baby is not a sign. A virgin having a baby is a significant sign. Jones points out that this was a sign to Ahaz that "God had not forsaken his people... but would continue to work out HIS PLANS for their complete redemption." 41 As with most prophecies it is only in hindsight that it can be clearly understood.

shall call His name Immanuel. Jones points out this is "a description" or symbolic of the fact that God will be with his people. 41

IN THAT DAY: Used the emphasize how bad it will be when this period begins. Vss. 18-19 God whistles and nature responds. vs 20- This shows the complete defeat by Assyria. Showing of captives was a sign of their defeat vs. 21-22 With no one to sell or shame with. The few who remain will have an abundance. vs 23-25 Left unattended everything will be overgrown because everyone is either dead or taken captive.