

# Israel's Fall

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #5 – Isaiah 7  
September 14 , 2016 – Wednesday

- I. AN EVIL COUNCIL AGAINST JERUSALEM, 7:1-9
  - A. Israel's Conspiracy , 1-2
    1. Ahaz, the grandson of Uzziah, is now the king of Judah.
    2. Pekah is the king of the northern kingdom of Israel as in verse one.
    3. Pekah and Rezin, the king of Syria, decided to work together to come against Jerusalem, verse 1
    4. It was told Ahaz that Syria and Ephraim (Israel from the north) were coming together to come against Jerusalem in the southern kingdom of Judah.
    5. Judah was much smaller (having only 2 tribes of the children of Israel), where Israel in the north was made up of 10 tribes. Then with Syria added, it would be like a wind coming upon Judah, the strong wind against the trees of Judah, no chance of escape verse 2.
  - B. Isaiah's Prophecy, 3-4
    1. Isaiah was to go and meet Ahaz, 3, along with his son, Shearjashub.
    2. Take heed, and be quiet, fear not, neither be faint-hearted because of Pekah and Rezin.
    3. God encourages Ahaz here by this prophecy that there is protection for Judah. God is not finished with Judah yet.
    4. Judah was in existence between 145-150 years after Israel was taken captive to Assyria.
  - C. The Conspiracy Explained, 5-6
    1. Syria, Ephraim, and Pekah have taken evil counsel against Judah, 5
    2. They have said, "Let us vex it and make a breach, and set a king in it (Tabeal). They already had a king picked out.
  - D. The Conspiracy Thwarted, 7-8
    1. The Lord said, 7, "It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass."
    2. He says that within 65 years Ephraim (Israel) will be broken and will not be a people., 8
      - a. It is quite difficult to physically calculate this 65-year period
      - b. Many scholars have roiled long and hard to find at least the beginning of this period.
      - c. One Jewish writer, Jarchi, calculates it this way: "the prophecy of Amos was two years before Uzziah was smitten with the leprosy, according to [Amo 1:1](#). Uzziah was a leper twenty five years, lo, twenty seven. Jotham reigned sixteen years, Ahaz sixteen, and Hezekiah six; as it is said, "in the sixth year of Hezekiah (that is, the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel) Samaria was taken", [2Ki 18:10](#) lo, sixty five years."
      - d. Whether this is right or wrong has been long debates. I am sure there was a better understanding of this in Isaiah's day than in our own day.
  - E. Faith Is The Victory, 9
    1. God speaks through Isaiah to Ahaz and says, "If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established." "Faith Is The Victory" by Buell Kazee
    2. It is faith that kept Judah on the map. If Ahaz cannot believe the prophecy of Isaiah, Judah will fall as well as Israel.
    3. They did fall over 100 years later, but faith was the victory that kept them in existence.

4. It is faith that keeps us assured of God's promises.

## II. A SIGN GIVEN FROM GOD, 7:10-16

- A. Isaiah told Ahaz to ask a sign from God, that God would give him a sign if he asks.
- B. But Ahaz refused to ask God a sign, because he knew the law said in Deuteronomy 6:16 *Ye shall not tempt the LORD your God, as ye tempted him in Massah.* Verse 12
  - 1. Ahaz was right in not asking for a sign because of Deut. 6:16
  - 2. But he was wrong for not asking for a sign, because God had told Isaiah to tell Ahaz to ask for a sign.
- C. Isaiah answers this unbelief in verse 13. By not believing Isaiah, Ahaz is wearying, not only man, but God.
- D. So, the Lord will give him a sign anyway, 14
  - 1. The Coming of the Messiah
    - a. This is a prophecy of the coming of Jesus, the Messiah.
    - b. A virgin shall conceive – Matthew 1:20 *But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.*
    - c. The virgin shall bear a son – Matthew 1:21 *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*
    - d. She shall call his name Immanuel – Matthew 1:23 *Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*
    - e. The Messiah will eat butter and honey, which was likely for him, since he lived in the land flowing with milk and honey, and John the Baptist ate locusts and wild honey.
    - f. He grew into manhood, knowing to choose the good and refuse the evil, 15b, making his choices in his perfect life and death to be willing choices—he knew what he was doing.
  - 2. The Killing of Two Kings, 16
    - a. As prophesied in verse 16, before Ahaz's son, Shearjashub, was old enough to choose the good and refuse the evil, the two kings who were after Ahaz would be forsaken, or cut off, or be killed.
    - b. Pekah was killed by Hoshea, who would be the last king of Israel.
    - c. Rezin was slain by the king of Babylon.

## III. AN ENEMY AGAINST JUDAH, 7:17-25

- A. The Lord Brings The Message 17-19
  - 1. It is the Lord who is doing all of this.
  - 2. It is not Assyria or Babylon or any other earthly power.
  - 3. God will call for the flies and the bees to rest upon almost everything, 19
- B. God Will Use The King of Assyria, 20
  - 1. "Them beyond the river" refers to Assyria, Chaldeans, and Babylon.
  - 2. God will shave with a razor to completely ruin Judah just as a razor cuts the hair close on the head, the feet, and the beard.
- C. Some Left In Judah, 21-23

1. A man with a cow and a couple of sheep will be left in Judah – Jeremiah 39:10 *But Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard left of the poor of the people, which had nothing, in the land of Judah, and gave them vineyards and fields at the same time.*
  2. Now that there are so few cows and much room to graze, the milk will be in abundance, and honey would be available in plenty.
  3. The land that is left alone will grow nothing but briars and thorns, 23
- D. Men Will Come With Arrows, 24-25
1. This is because many wild animals will be in the land because of the desolation, 24
  2. There is no fear of briars and thorns, because farmers and herdsmen would not be putting up brier fences for protection.
  3. But oxen and lesser cattle would be roaming everywhere. Here we see the desolation of Judah, which will not be inhabited fully for 70 more hard years. Yet God is faithful.
  4. Remember, his hand is stretched out still.
    - a. This clause “his hand is stretched out still” is found five times in Isaiah:
    - b. Isaiah 5:25; 9:12, 17, 21; 10:4
    - c. It represents the sovereignty of God and his being able to do whatever he wants, whether mercy or wrath, upon his people.
    - d. In a way of mercy: Isaiah 59:1 *Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:*
    - e. In a way of wrath: Ezekiel 39:21 *And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them.*