

Isaiah 7:1-25

A Sign for Ahaz and a Promised Messiah

February 13, 2022

INTRO: The history of the alliance with Assyria during the reign of Ahaz. Uzziah died in about 733, after a reign of 52 years. His son Jotham, a co-regent, died shortly after, having ruled with his father approximately fifteen years. Ahaz rose to power during the reigns of Uzziah and Jotham.

While the Northern tribes experienced a number of dynasties following Jeroboam, the Southern tribes of Judah, the Davidic dynasty, remained in the kingdom of David, Solomon, and Rehoboam, as prophesied by Judah (Gen. 49:10) by God. It was the royal family of the Messiah.

I. The Kings During Isaiah

- A. Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah (Is. 1:1)
- B. Uzziah, Jotham, and Hezekiah were good kings who followed God (mostly).
- C. Ahaz was an evil king who neither followed God nor trusted in Him. He ruled in a worldly fashion.

II. Trouble with Syria (Aram) and Israel

- A. Both Assyria (under Rezin) and Northern Israel (Remaliah) started a war with Jerusalem (Judah)
- B. By God's grace they failed
- C. Even so, it struck fear in the hearts of Ahaz and his army.

III. The Double Promise of God

- A. God sent Isaiah to Ahaz to offer a sign that He would care for Judah.
- B. Ahaz insults the Lord by refusing the offer of a sign.
- C. Isaiah gives a sign with a double prophecy.
 1. Isaiah's young bride will have a son—the prophetess has a son and names him Maher-shalal-hash-baz meaning swift is the booty, speedy is the prey.
 2. But the most important is the Mighty Deliverer, the miraculous birth of Messiah (Isaiah 7:14; Matt. 1:20-23)

IV. Ahaz Forms an Alliance with Tiglath-pileser (2 Kings 15-16)

- A. Despite God's promise of protection, Ahaz looks to human means.
- B. He makes a treaty and alliance with Tiglath-pileser, King of Assyria and buys his protection
 1. He gives him the gold and silver from the temple.
 2. He gives him the gold and wealth from the palatial chapel
 3. He builds an altar like the Assyrians.
 4. He worships on the high places.

V. God Promises Judgment as a Consequence (Isaiah 7:17-26)

CONC: God will not share His glory with another. He, and He alone, is our Deliverer. Ahaz refused to trust and depend on God and the nation would suffer for it. We were designed to live in dependence on the Lord.