

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

I. God’s Denunciation of Judah (1:1-12:6)

- A. The Condemnation of Judah (1:1-2:1-4)
- B. The Cleansing Judgments to Come (2:5-5:30)
- C. The Calling of Isaiah (6:1-13)

D. The Coming of Messiah (7:1-12:6)

1. Isaiah’s Ministry to Ahaz (7:1-25)

a. The *Threat* to the House of David (7:1-2)

7 Now it came about in the days of Ahaz, the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Aram and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could *not* conquer it.

²When it was reported to the house of David, saying, “The Arameans have camped in Ephraim,” his *heart* and the *hearts* of his people **shook** as the trees of the forest **shake** with the wind.

b. The *Message* to Ahaz (7:3-9)

³Then the **LORD** said to Isaiah, “Go out now to meet Ahaz, you and your son Shear-jashub, at the end of the conduit of the **upper pool**, on the **highway** to the **fuller’s field**, ⁴and say to him,

‘**Take care** and **be calm**, have *no fear* and do *not* be fainthearted because of these **two stubs** of smoldering **firebrands**, on account of the **fierce anger** of Rezin and Aram and the son of Remaliah.

⁵Because Aram, with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah, has **planned evil** against **you**, saying,

⁶“Let us go up **against Judah** and **terrorize it**, and make for ourselves a **breach** in its walls and **set up** the **son of Tabeel** as **king** in the midst of it,”

⁷ thus says the **Lord GOD**:
“It shall **not stand *nor*** shall it **come to pass**

⁸ For the ***head*** of **Aram** is **Damascus**
and the ***head*** of **Damascus** is **Rezin**
(now within another **65 years Ephraim** will be **shattered**,
so that it is no longer a people),

⁹ and the ***head*** of **Ephraim** is **Samaria**
and the ***head*** of **Samaria** is the son of **Remaliah**.

If you will **not believe**, you surely shall **not last**.””

c. The ***Sign of Immanuel*** (7:10-16)

¹⁰ Then the **LORD** spoke again to **Ahaz**, saying,

¹¹ “Ask a **sign** for **yourself** from the **LORD your God**;
make *it deep* as **Sheol** or **high** as **heaven**.”

¹² But **Ahaz** said, “I will ***not* ask**, ***nor*** will I **test the LORD!**”

¹³ Then **he** said, “***Listen now, O house of David!***
Is it too slight a thing for you to ***try*** the **patience of *men***,
that you will ***try*** the **patience of *my God*** as well?

¹⁴ Therefore the **Lord Himself** will **give you a sign**:

Behold, a **virgin** will be **with child** and bear **a son**,
and she will call **His name Immanuel**.

¹⁵ **He** will eat ***curds*** and ***honey***
at the time **He** knows ***enough*** to **refuse *evil*** and **choose *good***.

¹⁶ For before the **boy** will **know *enough*** to **refuse *evil*** and **choose *good***,
the **land** whose **two kings** you **dread** will **be *forsaken***.

d. The ***Invasion of Assyria*** (7:17-25)

¹⁷ The **LORD** will bring on **you**, on **your people**,
and on your **father’s house** such days as have **never come** since
the day that **Ephraim *separated*** from **Judah**, the **king of Assyria**.”

¹⁸ In ***that day*** the **LORD** will **whistle** for the ***fly*** that is in the remotest part
of the rivers of **Egypt** and for the ***bee*** that is in the land of **Assyria**.

¹⁹ They will **all come** and **settle** on the steep **ravines**,
on the ledges of the **cliffs**, on all the thorn **bushes**
and on all the **watering places**.

²⁰ In **that day** the Lord will **shave** with a razor,
hired from regions beyond the Euphrates
(*that is*, with the **king of Assyria**),
the **head** and the **hair** of the **legs**;
and it will also **remove** the **beard**.

²¹ Now in **that day** a man may keep alive a **heifer** and a **pair of sheep**;
²² and because of the **abundance** of the **milk** produced he will **eat curds**,
for everyone that is **left** within the **land** will eat **curds** and **honey**.

²³ And it will come about in **that day**, that **every place**
where there used to be a **thousand vines**,
valued at a **thousand shekels** of silver,
will become **briars** and **thorns**.

²⁴ *People* will come there with **bows** and **arrows**
because **all the land** will be **briars** and **thorns**.

²⁵ As for all the **hills** which used to be **cultivated** with the **hoe**,
you will **not** go there for fear of **briars** and **thorns**;
but they will become a place for **pasturing oxen** and for **sheep** to **trample**.

The *Messianic* Prophecy of Immanuel (7:13-15) Innerbiblical Confirmation

1. Having given **hope** to the **house of David** through the prophecy of the **birth of Immanuel** (7:13-15), **Isaiah** declares that a “**great light**” will dawn on those living in **darkness** (9:2). This “**light**” is later revealed as a “**child**,” a **son** who would be “**given to us**.” To this **child**, introduced to us earlier as “**Immanuel** (7:14),” **Isaiah** ascribes **four** more *glorious* titles, and declares that **He** will **rule** on the **throne of David** “**forevermore**:”

For a **child** will be **born to us**, a **son** will be **given to us**;
And the **government** will rest on **His shoulders**;
And **His name** will be called *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace*.

There will be **no end** to the increase of **His government** or of **peace**,
On the **throne of David** and over **his kingdom**,
To establish it and to uphold it with **justice** and **righteousness**
From then on and **forevermore**.

The **zeal** of the **LORD of hosts** will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:6-7)

2. The prophet **Micah** also **confirms** the *messianic* reading of Isaiah 7:13-15 in his well-known **prophecy** concerning **Messiah's birth** in **Bethlehem**:

“But as for you, **Bethlehem Ephrathah**,
Too little to be among the clans of **Judah**,

From you **One** will go forth for **Me** to be **ruler** in **Israel**.
His goings forth are from **long ago**,
from the days of **eternity**.”

Therefore **He (God)** will give **them** (Israel) **up** until the time

→when **she** who is **in labor** has **borne a child**...(Micah 5:2-3a)

→This **last phrase** has long been recognized as referring to the **virgin birth** in **Isaiah 7:13-15**.

3. In our **final confirmation**, the gospel of **Matthew** declares plainly that the **birth of Jesus to Miriam (Mary)**, a **Jewish virgin**, was indeed the *fulfillment* of the **Immanuel prophecy** given by **Isaiah** (7:14).

Now the **birth of Jesus the Messiah** was as follows:
when **His mother Mary** had been **betrothed** to **Joseph**,
before they came together
she was found to be **with child** by the **Holy Spirit**...

Now all this took place to **fulfill** what was spoken
by **the Lord** through the **prophet**:

“BEHOLD, THE **VIRGIN** SHALL BE **WITH CHILD** AND SHALL BEAR A **SON**,
AND THEY SHALL CALL **HIS NAME IMMANUEL**,”
which translated means, “**GOD WITH US**.” (Matthew 1:18, 22-23)

Closing Comments