**Chapter 7—The Foolishness of King Ahaz**

**In the Assyrian inscriptions the name of Rezin, king of Damascus, is found among the tributaries of Tiglath-pileser, of whose reign the annals of seventeen years have been deciphered. For the historical facts in this chapter, compare 2 Kings 15:37-16:9. Rezin of Syria and Pekah of Israel, as confederates, advanced against Jerusalem. In the first campaign they "smote Ahaz with a great slaughter" (**[**2 Chronicles 28:5**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-chronicles/28-5.html) **). Their object was probably to unite the three kingdoms against Assyria. Egypt seems to have favored the plan, so as to interpose these confederate kingdoms between her own frontier and Assyria (compare** [**Isaiah 7:18**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-18.html) **, "Egypt"; and** [**2 Kings 17:4**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/17-4.html) **, Hoshea's league with Egypt). Rezin and Pekah may have perceived Ahaz' inclination towards Assyria rather than towards their own confederacy; this and the old feud between Israel and Judah (**[**1 Kings 12:16**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/1-kings/12-16.html) **) occasioned their invasion of Judah. Ahaz, at the *second* inroad of his enemies (compare** [**2 Chronicles 28:1-26**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/bible/passage.aspx?q=2%20Chronicles+28:1-26&t=kjv) **and** [**2 Kings 15:37**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/15-37.html) **, with** [**Isaiah 16:5**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/16-5.html) **), smarting under his former defeat, applied to Tiglath-pileser, in spite of Isaiah's warning in this chapter, that he should rather rely on God; that king accordingly attacked Damascus, and slew Rezin (** [**2 Kings 16:9**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-9.html) **); and probably it was at the same time that he carried away part of Israel captive (**[**2 Kings 15:29**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/15-29.html) **), unless there were *two* assaults on Pekah--that in** [**2 Kings 15:29**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/15-29.html) **, the earlier, and that in which Tiglath helped Ahaz subsequently. Ahaz was saved at the sacrifice of Judah's independence and the payment of a large tribute, which continued till the overthrow of Sennacherib under Hezekiah (** [**Isaiah 37:37**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/37-37.html) **,** [**2 Kings 16:8**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-8.html)[**2 Kings 16:17**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-17.html)[**2 Kings 16:18**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-18.html) **,** [**2 Chronicles 28:20**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-chronicles/28-20.html) **). Ahaz' reign began about 741 B.C. and Pekah was slain in 738.** So, Isaiah chapters 7 to 12 are about King Ahaz. Chapters 13 to 23 are about countries near Judah.

1. **In Verse 1, are there any prophecies during Jotham’s reign?** No... The notes about Isaiah 1:1 contain the dates of these kings. Syria and Israel were north from Judah. Rezin was the last king of Syria. The king of Assyria, Tiglath-pileser the Third, defeated him in 732 B.C. Assyria’s king was called Tiglath-pileser ‘the Third’ because two earlier kings of Assyria had also been called Tiglath-pileser. Pekah was the 18th king of Israel. He murdered Pekahiah in order to become king. But in the end, someone else (Hoshea) murdered Pekah so Hoshea became king. This is in 2 Kings 15:25-31.
2. **Who are the kings mentioned in verse 1? Discuss the enemies of Judah**. **Why is the north allied against the south?** Ahaz became the king of Judah. He was the son of King Jotham, the son of King Uzziah. When Ahaz was king, Rezin, the king of Syria, and Pekah, the king of Israel, both attacked Jerusalem. Pekah was the son of Remaliah. Ephraim/House of Israel often refers to the northern tribes/Samaria was capital and formed an alliance with Syria. The Northern kingdom was trying to take over Judah. Syria confederated with Ephraim (the north). In Isaiah’s time, Jerusalem was in Judah, and the Northern kingdom’s capital was Samaria. King Rezin of Syria convinced the n. Kingdom to form a confederacy to go against Judah and King Ahaz to put a puppet king there.
3. **In verse 2, the House of David lives in the southern kingdom**. Who **is this and why do they live there?** Ephraim is another name for northern Israel, the largest of the northern tribes.
   1. **How did Ahaz react to the news of this alliance**?
4. **Are ten tribes of Israel really lost?** In 2 Chronicles, the faithful of all the tribes moved south; the idolaters moved north. Examine Deut. 12:5-7, 16:2-6, Isaiah 18:7, 2 Chronicles 30:5-6, 10-11, 21, 34:9, 11:3. ***The Faithful Voted with Their Feet***…..Before the Assyrian captivity, substantial numbers from the northern tribes had identified themselves with the house of David.[2](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes) The rebellion of Jeroboam and subsequent crises caused many to repudiate the Northern Kingdom and unite with the Southern Kingdom in a common alliance to the house of David and a desire to worship the Lord in Jerusalem.[3](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes) In 930 B.C., Jeroboam ruled the Northern Kingdom from his capital in Samaria.[4](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes) When Jeroboam turned the Northern Kingdom to idolatry, the Levites (and others who desired to remain faithful) migrated south to Rehoboam.[5](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes)Horrified that Jeroboam had set up a rival religion with golden calf worship at Bethel and Dan, many Northerners moved south, knowing that the only place acceptable to God was the Temple on Mt. Moriah.[6](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes) Those who favored idolatry migrated north to Jeroboam. Later, when Asa reigned as king in the south, another great company came from the north.[7](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes)Years after the deportation by Assyria, King Hezekiah of Judah issued a call to all Israel to come and worship in Jerusalem and celebrate the Passover.[8](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes) Eighty years later King Josiah of Judah also issued a call, and an offering for the Temple was received from "Manasseh and Ephraim and all the remnant of Israel...."[9](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes)eventually, all 12 tribes were represented in the south. God even addresses the 12 tribes in the south: "Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin...." The "tribe of Judah" **(2 Kings 17:18)** is used idiomatically for the Southern Kingdom.[11](http://www.khouse.org/articles/1995/40/#notes) When encountering the tribal designations, it is important to distinguish between the territories allocated to the tribes and the people themselves.
5. **Is Ahaz from the lineage of David?** Yes...‘Syria and Ephraim agreed to attack Ahaz and his people were afraid. Their hearts moved, as trees in the forest move in the wind.
   1. **What are the names of Isaiah’s sons? Why? Shearjashub**. **Refer to Isaiah 7:3**. They had two sons, naming one **Shear-Jashub, meaning "A remnant shall return" (**[**Isaiah 7:3**](http://tools.wmflabs.org/bibleversefinder/?book=Isaiah&verse=7:3&src=HE)**)**
   2. **Look at Isaiah 8:3.** The younger son, **Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz, meaning, "Spoil quickly, plunder speedily."** ([Isaiah 8:3](http://tools.wmflabs.org/bibleversefinder/?book=Isaiah&verse=8:3&src=HE)) **Maher-Shalal-hash-Baz--**It means ‘What (people) catch is coming quickly; what they will kill is hurrying’.
6. **In verse 4, what are Isaiah’s instructions to King Ahaz**? Be quiet and do not be afraid The plan--the son of Tabeal would rule Judah as the agent of Syria’s and Ephraim’s kings
   1. **How does God describe the enemies of Judah in verse 4?** starting a fire
   2. **Where else in the Bible are God’s words, “do not be afraid?”** ‘Do not be afraid’ is among Isaiah’s most important messages. He says it in Isaiah—**See Isaiah 7:4; 8:12; 10:24; 35:4; 37:6; 40:9; 41:10, 13-14; 43:1, 5; 44:2; and 51:7.**
7. **In verse 5-6, why were the enemies starting this fight?** 
   1. **In verse 5-6, who is Tabeal?** **Elaborate**. **Why did they want to make him the new king?** Incription happens in the Hebrew language: Tabeal is, according to the Hebrew alphabet, This inscription happens in Jeremiah 25:26, 51:41 ...a form of Hebrew inscription...means that Ramallia, the king of the northern kingdom who was hiding the fact that he wanted to take over Judah by linking himself with Syria. This shows that the Holy Spirit uses this as a sign post—Isaiah 61, Christ stops at a comma—revealing a secret.
8. **In verse 7, how does God answer this intrigue, this plot? V7** The \*LORD, who is \*Lord, says this. **‘It will not happen, it will never happen!** **v8** (It will not happen,) because the capital (city) of Syria is Damascus. Now the king of Damascus is Rezin
9. **What happens to Ephraim, verse 8-9? When? 65 years, Ephraim is over/ northern Israel.**’ And 65 years from now Ephraim will not be a country!. **V9** And the capital (city) of Ephraim is Samaria. And the **king of Samaria is the son of Remaliah**. **But the line ‘Ephraim will not exist’ is the most important line in the section.** Because the people in Ephraim did not obey God, they were not God’s people any longer. *One* deportation of Israel happened within one or two years from this time, under Tiglath-pileser.
   1. **See also** [**2 Kings 15:29**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/15-29.html) **and 2 Kings 17:1-6.** *Another* in the reign of Hoshea, under Shalmenazer ([2 Kings 17:1-6](http://www.biblestudytools.com/bible/passage.aspx?q=2%20Kings+17:1-6&t=kjv) ), was about twenty years after.
   2. **Further examine Ezra 4:2-3, 10, 2 Kings 17:24, 2 Chronicles 33:11.** But the final one which utterly "broke" up Israel so as to be "not a people," accompanied by a colonization of Samaria with foreigners, was under Esarhaddon, who carried away Manasseh, king of Judah, also, in the twenty-second year of his reign, sixty-five years from the utterance of this prophecy.
10. **Verse 9b becomes the “key” verse for this chapter, as well as for us today.** **Discuss.** **“If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.”**
11. **Understand Hosea 1:1-9**. **Compare Hosea’s children to Isaiah’s**. Says the same. ‘Call his (your son’s) name Lo-Ammi. You are not my people and I will not be your God.’ ‘Lo-Ammi’ is \*Hebrew for ‘not my people’.
12. **What was God’s warning to the southern Kingdom in verse 9?** And if you do not believe this, you will not be alive (either).’ ”
13. **Why are verses 10-16 special? Elaborate.**
    1. **Why does God want Ahaz, verse 10, to ask Him for a sign**? History tells us that Ahaz dabbled in necromancy which was forbidden by God. **V10** And the \*LORD spoke again to Isaiah. ‘Say this to Ahaz. **v11** He said, ‘Ask the \*LORD your God for a message. Ask for it deep in the earth or high in the sky.
       1. **Is Ahaz being honest in his statement about “not putting God to a test**?” **Observe the language in Malachi 3:10.**
       2. **Does the phrase, “God is with us,”"Immanuel," imply the same as the scripture in** [**Numbers 14:9**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/numbers/14-9.html)**,** [**Psalms 46:7**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/psalms/46-7.html)**?**
       3. **Contrast with** [**Isaiah 37:30**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/37-30.html) **,** [**Isaiah 38:7**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/38-7.html)**, and** [**Isaiah 38:8**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/38-8.html)**. Correlate.**
    2. **Is sarcasm evident in verse 12? Distinguish. V12** But Ahaz said, ‘I will never ask (for a message) or ask the \*LORD to do something.’ **See also** [**Deuteronomy 6:16**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/deuteronomy/6-16.html)**.**
       1. **Instead of God, who does Ahaz ask to help him? Observe 2 Kings 16:7**. Ahaz asked the king of Assyria to help him!
14. **Why does God refer to the house of David when chastising Ahaz? V13** And he Isaiah said, ‘Now listen, Ahaz, You belong to the family of David! You are making your people angry with you. And you are making God angry with you too?
    1. **Why will Ahaz not seek God’s answer?**
15. **God decided to speak to the whole house of David to give a sign; review verse 14.**
    1. **Note the double emphasis, “the Lord Himself;”discuss. Why?**
    2. **Review verses 14-16. Why is God delivering the “Messiah” story here? V14** So the \*Lord himself will give you a message. Look, the \*virgin will become \*pregnant. She will have a son and she will call his name \*Immanuel. **V15** One day he will know the difference between right things and wrong things. Then he will be old enough to eat butter and sugar. **V16** But even before the child knows the difference between right things and wrong things, Assyria will destroy Ephraim and Syria. The two kings that you are afraid of will be in other countries themselves**.**
       * 1. **In verse 14, note the use of “The” virgin, not “A” virgin. See Matthew 1:18-23, Genesis 3:15, Jeremiah 31:22, Micah 5:3 and Genesis 24:43, that it might be fulfilled; in the prophet......Isaiah is quoted.** Matthew referred to Isaiah’s \*prophecy from Isaiah 7:14. ‘Immanuel’ meant ‘**With us is God**’. (Matthew 1:22-23). In Genesis 24:43, the \*Hebrew word for ‘\*virgin’ means. **Virgin**--from a root, "to lie hid," virgins being closely kept from men's gaze in their parents' custody in the East. The *Hebrew,* and the *Septuagint* here, and *Greek* ( [Matthew 1:23](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/matthew/1-23.html) ), have the article, *the* virgin, some definite one known to the speaker and his hearers; primarily, the woman, then a virgin, about immediately to become the second wife, and bear a child, whose attainment of the age of discrimination (about three years) should be preceded by the deliverance of Judah from its two invaders; its fullest significance is realized in "*the* woman" ([Genesis 3:15](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/genesis/3-15.html)), whose seed should bruise the serpent's head and deliver captive man ([Jeremiah 31:22](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/jeremiah/31-22.html) , [Micah 5:3](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/micah/5-3.html))., Jesus Christ ( [Revelation 19:10](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/revelation/19-10.html) ). Evidently the wording is such as to apply more fully to Jesus Christ than to the prophet's son; "virgin" applies, in its simplest sense, to the Virgin Mary, rather than to the prophetess who ceased to be a *virgin* when she "conceived"; "Immanuel," *God with us* ( [John 1:14](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/john/1-14.html) , [Revelation 21:3](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/revelation/21-3.html) ), cannot in a strict sense apply to Isaiah's son, but only to Him who is presently called expressly ( [Isaiah 9:6](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/9-6.html) ), "the Child, the Son, Wonderful (compare [Isaiah 8:18](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/8-18.html) ), the mighty *God.*" Local and temporary features (as in [Isaiah 7:15](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-15.html) [Isaiah 7:16](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-16.html) ) are added in every type; otherwise it would be no type, but the thing itself.
            1. **Discuss the ‘virgin birth’ referred to in** [**Genesis 3:15**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/genesis/3-15.html) **, whose seed should bruise the serpent's head and deliver captive man; see also** [**Jeremiah 31:22**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/jeremiah/31-22.html) **,** [**Micah 5:3**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/micah/5-3.html)**.**
       1. **Analyze the word “Immanuel”—See Matthew 1:22-23, I Timothy 3:16, and Colossians 2:9.**or *regard* Him as *peculiarly and most fitly characterized by the descriptive name,* for Immanuel Messiah is to be born in it as heir of David, of whom Isaiah's son is but a type…
       2. **Does “Behold,” or “Therefore” always trigger a prophecy? Defend your answer.**
       3. **God is ‘daring’ Ahaz to ask for a fantastic sign in verse 14. Why does Ahaz ignore this challenge**? Give “you” a sign—the ‘you’ is plural and means “the house of David, plural.” Lord himself will give you a message
          1. **Elaborate on Verse 14, where the Messiah is to be the son of God.**
       4. **Re-visit Verse 11 and consider that this message will be miracle for the continuation of the House of David.** “alma”—virgin
       5. **See Genesis 3:15, where God declares war on Satan, and promises that the woman’s seed will defeat Satan...**the seed of the woman, Jesus Christ.
16. **In verse 16, Ahaz is given a timeline, in relationship to Isaiah’s young son. Discuss its meaning.** The deliverance implied in the name "Immanuel," and the cessation of distress as to food ([Isaiah 7:14](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-14.html) [Isaiah 7:15](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-15.html) ), shall last only till the child grows to know the difference in good and evil. **The land**--namely, Syria and Samaria regarded as one ([2 Kings 16:9](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-9.html) , [15:30](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/15-30.html), Luke 2:1, Genesis 49:10), just *two* years after this prophecy, as it foretells...
17. **What will happen to the northern tribes/ Ephraim? See verses 17-23.** **V17** The \*LORD will bring the king of Assyria to you and to your people. (He will come) to the house of your father. It will be a special time. There have been no days like it since Ephraim became separate from Judah.’ **v18** on that day the \*LORD will tell the flies at the higher end of the river in Egypt that they must come. And he will tell the \*bees in the country called Assyria that they must come. **v19** And they will all come and they will land on (these places):
18. **Discuss the bees and the flies in verse 18. See Isaiah 19:5-7, 23:3, Deut. 1:44, Psalm 118:12, and Exodus 8:21. Bee—Assyria, hiss**--whistle, to bring bees to settle   
    **fly**--found in numbers about the arms of the Nile and the canals from it ( [Isaiah 19:5-7](http://www.biblestudytools.com/bible/passage.aspx?q=Isaiah+19:5-7&t=kjv) , [23:3](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/23-3.html) ), here called "rivers." Hence arose the plague of flies ([Exodus 8:21](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/exodus/8-21.html) ). Figurative, for *numerous* and *troublesome* foes from the remotest parts of Egypt, for example, Pharaoh-nechoh. **Bee**--([Deuteronomy 1:44](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/deuteronomy/1-44.html) , [Psalms 118:12](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/psalms/118-12.html) ). As numerous in Assyria as the fly in marshy Egypt. Sennacherib, Esarhaddon, and Nebuchadnezzar fulfilled this prediction.
    1. **What places will the Assyrian army take captive?**
       1. The valleys with high sides
       2. The holes in the rocks
       3. All the \*thorn bushes
       4. All the places where there is water.
    2. **How does the Lord use the king of Assyria? What is a ‘razor” in verse 20? See** [**Isaiah 10:5**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/10-5.html)**,** [**Ezekiel 29:19**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/29-19.html), **and** [**Ezekiel 29:20**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/29-20.html)**. v20** On that day the \*Lord will use the king of Assyria. He will come from beyond the river. He will cut off the hair from your head, your legs and your beard. The king that is hired, by the king of Assyria....hired razor is king of Assyria.....referring to removal of kingly authority, national identity and the priesthood. This verse says that the King of Assyria will humiliate Ahaz.
    3. **How does this compare with the Nazarite vow in Numbers 6:5-21?** See Nazarite Vow....form of disgrace...
    4. **How does this compare with the symbol of shame in Lev. 14:9?** Lev. 14:9—leprous had to shave, sinful ...removal of kingly authority, national identity, and priesthood.
       1. **See 2 Samuel 10:4-5, I Chronicles 19:14 and Isaiah 20:4.** when David’s men were shamed by King Hunan.
    5. **Is there an ‘attitude of religiosity’ with Ahaz?**
    6. **Discover that “to cut the beard" is the greatest indignity to an Easterner. See** [**Isaiah 50:6**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/50-6.html) **,** [**2 Samuel 10:4**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-samuel/10-4.html)[**2 Samuel 10:5**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-samuel/10-5.html) **,** [**Ezekiel 5:1**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/5-1.html)**.**
19. **Discuss the “river” in verse 20.**namely, the Euphrates; the eastern boundary of Jewish geographical knowledge ([Psalms 72:8](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/psalms/72-8.html) ); the river which Abram crossed; the Nile also may be included ([Isaiah 7:18](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-18.html)).
20. **Re-read Psalm 40 and discover why everything in the O.T. is written about Jesus. Elaborate.**
21. **Review Revelation 12. Who is the woman?** Genesis 37, sun, moon, and 12 stars... Israel Who is the child? Who is the red dragon? From Genesis 3-Revelatin 22 there is warfare between man (redeemer) and Satan. The House of David is Satan’s specific attack. See Jeremiah 22:24-- King Jekiniah or Koniah....evil king...God says, “Write this man childless “and “no man of his seed shall prosper in David’s lineage.” God pronounced a blood curse on Jekiniah. Satan was pleased with this. The messiah must come from this line.....But, God in Genesis 3:15, God pronounced a virgin birth. Matthew’s genealogy is from Abraham to David to Joseph, the legal father of Jesus. Luke sends the genealogy with Adam to Abraham to David, and then he does not go through Solomon but through Nathan, down to Mary. Therefore, the blood curse of Jekiniah is nullified by God. Four gospels....John, 1st three verses is a genealogy. Matthew presents Jesus as the Messiah; Luke has the genealogy, Mark does not have a genealogy. **Zelophehad’s daughters...getting their inheritance in Numbers 27 and 36**; this affects Mary’s genealogy. Genesis 3—virgin birth through Rev. 12 (key chapter in Revelation)—a woman clothed with the sun, moon, and stars, pregnant....male child, caught up to God and His throne. Genesis 37—Joseph’s dreams interpret the idiom as ‘Israel.’ She is bearing the seed of the woman, Jesus from Genesis 3. From Genesis 3:15-Revelation 22 is warfare between Satan and God. **Daughter of Zion** ~ the people that live in the city called Jerusalem. (Zion is the name of the hill in Jerusalem.)
22. **Correlate Isaiah 28:21 with Ephesians 2: 7-9, and link this concept of “strange work of redemption.”**
23. **What is the idiom in Verse 15?—**butter and honey is an idiom that means ‘poverty.’ This was the food of desert wanderers. Hebrews understood that this was “poor man’s food.”
    1. “**His child” in verse 16 shifts back to Ahaz. Why?** Forsaken by both kings. A warning from God.
    2. **Is “forsaken” implied in verses 21-22, with an idiom that means “not enough” or sparse?** Everything will be forsaken.
24. **What does the last verse in this chapter imply?** Idiom that means “scarcity, or not enough.” Implies “want.” v21 on that day a man will keep alive a young cow and two goats. V22 They will give a lot of milk, so he will have butter to eat. Everyone that remains in the country will eat butter and sugar. V23 On that day, in every place where there were 1000 \*vines, there will be weeds and \*thorns. (1000 \*vines) are worth 1000 pieces of \*silver. V24 A man will go there with a bow and \*arrows. (He will do this) because there will be \*brambles and \*thorns on all the land. V25 Nobody will go to the hills because they are afraid of the \*brambles and \*thorns. (These are the hills where) people would dig to grow plants. Now cows go there and sheep run about
25. **What is the judgment implied upon Judah?**
26. **How does Psalm 40:6-7 declare that all the Bible is written about Jesus**?...the spirit of prophecy
27. **Compare** [**Jeremiah 49:19**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/jeremiah/49-19.html) **with the judgments in Isaiah 7.**
28. **Summarize the judgment that is implicit in Isaiah 7. How can this compare to America today?**
29. **Why is Chapter 7 often labelled, “The Foolishness of King Ahaz?”**

**Chapter 8—Assyria, the Invader**

The first seven verses of the ninth chapter actually belong to this section. The eighth chapter continues the subject of the seventh chapter, but at a later period--compare [Isaiah 8:4](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/8-4.html) with [Isaiah 7:16](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-16.html); implying that the interval till the accomplishment is shorter now than then. The tone of [Isaiah 8:17](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/8-17.html) -22, expresses calamity more immediate and afflictive than [Isaiah 7:4](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/7-4.html)-22.

1. **Discuss the two kingdoms of Israel. See 2 Chronicles 11:14-16.** (Verse 26—tells all the holy ones from the north migrated and went to the southern kingdoms). Rehoboam (south) and Jeroboam (north) are feuding...Divided by tribe when they entered the Promised Land......northern kingdom, territory to ten tribes, Judah—territory to Simeon and Judah, and part of Benjamins. Levites only inherited cities. As the war starts, all the Levites went into Judah, the southern kingdom. Jeroboam had his own idol worshipping.....in verse 16, all the tribes that sought God came to the southern Kingdom. Chapter 8 talks about the overthrow of Syria **and Northern Kingdom. Ist King was Saul, 2nd King was David, 3rd King was Solomon, 4th King Rehoboam,** and then the north seceded and invited **Jeroboam to be the northern king**—the 10 tribes; kingdom divided. The O. T. Law instructed Jews to go to Jerusalem to keep the feasts three times a year--Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles....but Jeroboam wanted his people to stop going to Jerusalem and told people to worship in the northern capital, Samaria, in the kingdom of Dan....a counterfeit alter, two golden calves...this was the beginning of the idolatry permeating the northern ten tribes. **This is where Isaiah finds himself....in 740 B.C., Assyria begins to take the north, and it took 18 years, for Tigmapilezer to do this...in 724 Shalmenazer, king of Assyria, 2 Kings 18-19. Finished the job.**
   1. **Describe the large scroll and the pen.** God speaks prophetically to Isaiah around 724 B.C. about a new son, and tells him to take two witnesses. These two witnesses are very trustworthy. Two witnesses had to be given by Jewish law.
   2. **Discuss where else in the Bible that we see two faithful witnesses**? Refer to Revelation 11.
   3. **What kind of pen is this?** For the common man. **Compare to** [**Habakkuk 2:2**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/habakkuk/2-2.html)**.**
2. **What does Isaiah’s son’s name mean?** Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz, the longest name in the Bible, written down ‘quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil.’ Samaria is the capital of the northern kingdom.
   1. **What is other son’s name? What do their names mean?** Plunder speedeth and the booty hasteth**.** Literally means **“**Speed the spoil and hasten the booty.” Destruction is coming quickly. From the time this boy is born, and before he speaks, destruction is coming within three years or so. **Read 2 Kings 16, 2 Chronicles 29. Maher-Shalal-hash-Baz**--"They (that is, the Assyrians) hasten to the spoil (namely, to spoil Syria and Samaria), they speed to the prey"
   2. **Why did Isaiah name this son before he was born? Discuss prophecy.**
   3. **Who are the witnesses? Why are they necessary?**
3. **In verse 4, what happens to Damascus and Syria?**
4. **In verse 5, who was the king of Syria?** Rezin. So the northern kingdom had joined with Syria, rather than trust in God to protect them from Assyria. Between Assyria and the Northern Kingdom laid Syria, who they decided to join with them in a confederacy.
5. **What are the Waters of Shiloah as described in verse 6?** These are the waters that stream from the Gihon Stream outside of Jerusalem’s city wall. The waters of peace. Rather than peace, they are favouring this alliance. Because they did not trust in God, Assyria will come against the north.
   1. **According to verse 7, the waters of the river were detailed. Why? Describe the imagery of “bringing up the water over you.”** Euphrates and other side is Assyria who will come in 722 B.C. and take the northern part. This king will be God’s instrument of justice.
   2. **Where else does God use rivers for punishment? See Exodus 7:14-11:10.**
6. **Discuss “Immanuel.” See 16, b, ii.**
7. **Does Verse 9 shift God’s attitude?** God is warning that the Assyrians are coming. Seems to go far beyond the present day...take counsel together....devise a device Isaiah is getting criticism because he is very unpopular when he says Vs. 13...don’t make an alliance with others....
   1. **Refer to I Peter 3:15 trust in God and fear Him only.**
   2. **‘Broken in pieces,’ verse 9, is mentioned twice for emphasis. Link that technique with other scripture.** 
      1. **See Genesis 22:11, “Abraham, Abraham!” to stop him from sacrificing Isaac.**
      2. **See Genesis 35:9-15, “Moses, Moses!” from the burning bush**
      3. **See I Samuel 3:10, when God called out to Samuel twice.**
      4. **See Luke 10:41, “Martha, Martha.”**
      5. **See Luke 22:31, “Simon, Simon,” when Peter was told he would deny Jesus three times.**
      6. **See Mark 15:34, “Eloi, Eloi”—Jesus called out on the cross.**
   3. **The Bible says that “Take counsel will come to nothing.” Why? Look through “the lens of scripture.” Examine Psalm 2:2**
   4. **Verse 10 shows Israel’s plan coming to naught. Explain.**
8. **In verse 11, what is the “strong hand?” See Psalm 136:12. Also view** [**Jeremiah 15:17**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/jeremiah/15-17.html)**,** [**Ezekiel 1:3**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/1-3.html)**,** [**Ezekiel 3:14**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/3-14.html)**,** [**Ezekiel 3:22**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/3-22.html) **,** [**37:1**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/ezekiel/37-1.html)**.**
9. **Does verse 12’s ‘conspiracy theory’ remind you of Jeremiah? Consider Jeremiah 37:13-15.**
   1. **Who is the conspiracy or the confederacy?** God does not want His people to listen to the world. Instead, fear God.
10. **According to verse 13, who does God tell Israel to dread or fear?** God Himself. Refer about “the fear of God.”
    1. **Contrast to other people who fell on their face in God’s presence:**
       1. **John in Revelation 1:17**
       2. **Daniel in Daniel 8:27**-- the fear of the Lord is more than just love and reverence.
11. **Compare Romans 9:33 and I Peter 2:8 to Verse 14...a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense. Is this the same description for Jesus Christ?**
    1. **Consider Psalm 118: 22 and Daniel 2:45. Compare it to the “blood-redemption through Jesus.**
    2. The very stone, Immanuel, which would have been a *sanctuary* on belief, becomes a fatal *stumbling-block* through unbelief. Jesus Christ refers to this in [Matthew 21:44](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/matthew/21-44.html) **. Compare** [**Deuteronomy 32:4**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/deuteronomy/32-4.html)**,** [**32:15**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/deuteronomy/32-15.html)**,**  [**32:18**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/deuteronomy/32-18.html)**,** [**32:30**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/deuteronomy/32-30.html)**, 31, 37, Daniel 2:34,** [**Romans 9:33**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/romans/9-33.html) **, and** [**1 Peter 2:8**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/1-peter/2-8.html) **.**
12. **God references, in verse 15, that Israel will stumble and fall. Relate this to Israel’s rejection of Jesus in Luke 20:18, Romans 9:32, 28:16.**
13. **How does Matthew 5:17, where Jesus fulfils the law, connect to verse 16-17?**
    1. **What does “seal up” imply? Associate Isaiah 30:8, 6:9-10, Psalm 25:14, Daniel 8:26, 12:9, Revelation 22:10, 5:1, 5, 9.** Bind up . . . seal--What Isaiah had before briefly noted by inscribing *Maher-Shalal-hash-Baz* in a *tablet,* fixed up in some public place, he afterwards wrote out more in detail in a *parchment roll* ( [Isaiah 30:8](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/30-8.html) ); this he is now to *seal up,* not merely in order that nothing may be added to, or taken from it, as being complete, but to imply **that it relates to distant events,** and is therefore to be a *sealed* and *not understood* testimony ([Isaiah 6:9](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/6-9.html) [Isaiah 6:10](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/6-10.html) ), except in part among God's disciples," that is, those who "sanctify the Lord" by obedient trust ([Psalms 25:14](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/psalms/25-14.html)). Subsequent revelations would afterwards clear up what now was dark. **So the Apocalypse explains what in Daniel was left unexplained (compare** [**Daniel 8:26**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/daniel/8-26.html)**,** [**12:9**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/daniel/12-9.html)**).** **"The words are closed up and *sealed* till the time of the end"; but** [**Revelation 22:10**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/revelation/22-10.html) **, "*Seal* not the sayings of the prophecy--for the time is at hand" (compare** [**Revelation 5:1**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/revelation/5-1.html)**,** [**Revelation 5:5**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/revelation/5-5.html)**,** [**Revelation 5:9**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/revelation/5-9.html) **).**
14. **In verse 17, why is God hiding His face from Israel?**
    1. **Parallel this with Jesus’ words in Matthew 27:46 and also David’s in Psalm 22:1.**
    2. **Who are the descendants of Jacob?** Only three kings had ruled over all Judah and Israel. They were Saul, David and Solomon. After Solomon’s death, the people divided their country into two countries. There were 13 tribes in total. 9 tribes became the northern country, called Israel. 2 tribes, Judah and Simeon/Benjamin, became the southern country called Judah. Levi’s tribe lived in 48 towns in both Israel and Judah... Isaiah uses the name ‘Ephraim’ for the northern country, Israel. That is because Ephraim’s tribe was the most important one among Israel’s 9 or 10 tribes. The tribes divided into two countries about 200 years before Isaiah was born.
15. **Verse 18 becomes very personal for Isaiah. How is God using him and his two sons?**
    1. **What does Isaiah say about him and his children?**
    2. **What are the signs and wonders?**
16. **In verse 19, discuss mediums, wizards, channelors? Shouldn’t they seek God instead? See Deut. 18:9-11...** “When thou art come into the lands....thou shalt not use divination.....an “observer of times.” people are still seeking witchcraft ...Were they supposed to be stoned to death? “Peep”-- necromancers, spirit charmers. So Saul, when he had forsaken God ([1 Samuel 28:7](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/1-samuel/28-7.html)), consulted the witch of En-dor in his difficulties. These follow in the wake of idolatry, which prevailed under Ahaz ([2 Kings 16:3](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-3.html) [2 Kings 16:4](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-4.html) [2 Kings 16:10](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/2-kings/16-10.html) ). He copied the soothsaying as he did the idolatrous "altar" of Damascus (compare [Leviticus 20:6](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/leviticus/20-6.html) , which forbids it, [Isaiah 19:3](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/19-3.html) ). Rather "chirp faintly," as young birds do; this sound was generally ascribed to departed spirits; by ventriloquism the soothsayers caused a low sound to precede as from a grave or dead person. Hence the *Septuagint* renders the *Hebrew* for "necromancers" here "ventriloquists" (compare [Isaiah 29:4](http://www.biblestudytools.com/kjv/isaiah/29-4.html) ).
    1. **Refer to Lev. 19:26; 20:13. 14, 27 and Exodus 22:18.**
17. **In Verse 20, what does “no light in them” mean?** 
    1. **Who is the light? Read John 8:12.**
18. **Verse 22 references “they will be driven into darkness.” Where else in the scripture do we experience that same language? See Job 18:18, Matthew 8:12, 22:13, I Samuel 2:9, 2 Peter 2:17, Revelation 16:10.**
19. **Sum up verse 21-24. Why does the earth offer Israel no help?**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Isaiah  chapters  7 to 12 | Isaiah  chapters  13 to 23 | Isaiah  chapters  24 to 27 | Isaiah  chapters  28 to 33 | Isaiah  chapters  34 to 35 | Isaiah  chapters  36 to 40 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | The little \*apocalypse | The sad people |  |  |
|  | Countries near Judah |  |  | The centre of the book |  |
| King Ahaz |  |  |  |  | King Hezekiah |

**There are *over 333 prophecies in the Old Testament that were fulfilled by Jesus’ first coming. And, there are 500 yet to be fulfilled in His next two comings to earth.....once for the church in the Rapture, and the Second Coming for His remnant, Israel.***

**The Promises for Today**

### Isaiah 44:22, “I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and as a cloud, thy sins; return unto Me, for I have redeemed thee.”

**Ephesians 2:4-14,  “But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,5Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)6And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:7That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.8For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:9Not of works, lest any man should boast.10For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.11Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;12That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:13But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.14For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us.”**

***Favorite Isaiah verses from this session:***

***Isaiah 7:14, “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold the virgin shall conceive and shall bear a Son, and shall call Him name Immanuel.”***

***Isaiah 8:13-14, “The Lord of hosts, Him you shall hallow; Let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread. He will be as a sanctuary….”***