

ISAIAH 7

- SEND

of

ME...

o Seeing the
Lord...

▪ King
Uzziah [Azariah]
was one of EIGHT
good kings from
Judah - II

Chronicles 26:16

▪ But
when he DIED
[bad end] - Isaiah
looked UP - and
saw the THRONE
God...

- Surrounded by SERAPHIM - who worshiped the Triune LORD - HOLY [x3]
- Isaiah was **UNDONE** - because he knew he was a **SINNER** [unclean]
- But one of the SERAPHIM took a coal from the ALTAR [incense] to touch his LIPS...
- By his **CONFESSION** [repentance] - he had been **FORGIVEN** - **I John 1:9**
- o Sent by the Lord...
 - Isaiah heard a voice ask - who will go for US [plural]
 - He quickly replied - **SEND** me - the only qualification for being used by God...
 - The LORD commanded [imperative] Isaiah to **GO** - tell the people to **LISTEN**...
 - But He warned him - they would **NOT** understand - because of their **FAT** hearts...
 - Because if they did **SEE** and **HEAR** - their hearts would be **HEALED** [test] - **Matthew 13:14-15**
 - When Isaiah asked **HOW** long he should tell a people who would **NOT** listen...
 - God told him - until there was **NO** [יֵשׁ] one left to preach to!
- **1ST - COMING WAR... vs. 1-9**
 - o 1st – King Ahaz... vs. 1
 - Bad king...
 - Now it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham - son of Uzziah - king of Judah!
 - King **AHAZ** [12th king of Judah] ruled Judah from 735-715 B.C.
 - He was the son of **JOTHAM** [good king] - grandson of **UZZIAH** [good king]
 - But he became a **WICKED** king - who even sacrificed his children to **MOLECH** - **II Kings 16:3**
 - **TWO** possibilities why he **REJECTED** the God of his father and grandfather...
 - **FIRST** - the **PROSPERITY** of Judah under **GODLY** Uzziah and Jotham...
 - Because he grew up in a **RICH** country - he **NEVER** learned to depend on the LORD...
 - The name **AHAZ** means to **GRASP** [אָחַז] - grab ahold of things...
 - **SECOND** - his father **JOTHAM** - did not pass on his relationship with God!
 - Teaching kids...
 - We are taught by the world that we should give the **BEST** for our kids...
 - But the **WORLDLY** idea of what is best - is things that **DO** not last [money - things]
 - Ironically those things we think are a **BLESSING** - might keep them from **Jesus** [prosperity]
 - Dads listen - our children will **NOT** accidentally learn to follow Jesus...
 - We have to **CHOOSE** to train them up to **KNOW** the LORD!
 - **Ephesians 6:4** - “Fathers... bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” [NIV]
 - o 2nd - Defeated... vs. 1-2
 - Wicked kings... vs. 1
 - **Rezin** king of Syria and **Pekah** the son of Remaliah - king of Israel.
 - An alliance of **TWO** kingdoms came against Ahaz and Judah...
 - King **REZIN** [firm] - who was the king of **SYRIA** [Damascus]
 - King **PEKAH** [open] - **WICKED** king who ruled Israel from 752-732 B.C. - **II Kings 15:28**
 - **PEKAH** came to power by murdering **PEKAHIAH** son of **MENAHEN**...
 - **MENAHEN** had become king by murdering king **SHALLUM** [only reigned for a month]
 - **SHALLUM** became king by murdering king **ZACHARIAH** - **II Kings 15:10**
 - Needless to say - it was **NOT** necessarily a good thing to be the **KING** [short lives]!
 - Shaken... vs. 1-2
 - [They] went up to Jerusalem to make war against it - but could not prevail against it.
 - It was told to the house of David saying: Syria's forces are deployed in Ephraim.
 - His heart - and his people - were moved as the trees of the woods are moved with the wind!
 - These **TWO** armies [Israel and Syria] set out to go to **WAR** with **JUDAH** ...
 - When **JUDAH** heard about the alliance - they were **SHAKEN** [sequential] to the core [לִקְבֹּץ]
 - **SHAKEN** - like [קָ] when trees are blown by the **WIND** [רוּחַ]

- God delivered JUDAH into their hands - because of the sins of AHAZ - **II Chronicles 28:5-15**
 - They killed 120 THOUSAND soldiers of JUDAH in one day [more than any day in WW2]
 - ISRAEL then took 200 THOUSAND women and children captive from JUDAH as slaves...
 - But a prophet named Oded [restorer] - came to ISRAEL and rebuked them...
 - God had allowed them to defeat JUDAH because He was angry with them...
 - But ISRAEL was not innocent – and was provoking God to come against them!
- o 3rd - Do not fear... vs. 3-4
- The Remnant... vs. 3
 - Then the LORD said to Isaiah: Go out now to meet Ahaz - you and Shear-Jashub your son.
 - At the end of the aqueduct from the upper pool - on the highway to the Fullers Field!
 - All of JUDAH had FALLEN - only Jerusalem was still standing...
 - As AHAZ tried to find HELP - any ANSWER to this existential threat...
 - [Sequential] - then the LORD [יְהוָה] commanded ISAIAH to go and meet with him...
 - ISAIAH was to bring his SON [שָׁאֵר יְשׁוּב] - a REMNANT [שְׁאֵר] will RETURN [יָשׁוּב]
 - He was to meet AHAZ by the UPPER pool [AHAZ was preparing the city for a siege]
 - In ancient times when an invading army came against a walled city [like Jerusalem]
 - The most important thing was to PROTECT the WATER source...
 - Hezekiah [son of Ahaz] would carve a TUNNEL for the Gihon spring - **II Kings 20:20**
 - Just smoke... vs. 4
 - Say to him: Take heed and be quiet. Do not fear or be fainthearted for these two.
 - Stubs of smoking firebrands - for the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria the son of Remaliah!
 - ISAIAH was to command [imperative] AHAZ to WATCH [שָׁמַר] and be QUIET [שָׁקֵט]
 - He was NOT [לֹא] to let [jussive] himself FEAR or be fainthearted...
 - Because the ANGER of REZIN and PEKAH [son of Remaliah]
 - Was all SMOKE and no FIRE - nothing to be concerned about!
 - FEAR is NOT a response – it is a choice – we choose based on what we are looking at...
 - If we are looking at our CIRCUMSTANCES – then we choose to be AFRAID...
 - If we look to the Lord – then we by FAITH – have nothing to FEAR!
- o 4th - End of Israel... vs. 5-9
- The plot... vs. 5-6
 - Syria - Ephraim - and the son of Remaliah have plotted evil against you saying:
 - Let us go up against Judah and trouble it - and let us make a gap in its wall for ourselves.
 - And set a king over them - the son of Tabel.
 - Because [כִּי] - even though SYRIA and EPHRAIM [Israel] have plotted EVIL...
 - They wanted to go UP to JUDAH [Jerusalem] - and break through [hiphil] the WALL...
 - Then replace AHAZ with their own KING - the son of TABEL - God [אֱלֹהִים] is good [טוֹב]
 - The truth... vs. 7-9
 - Thus says the Lord GOD: It shall not stand. Nor shall it come to pass.
 - For the head of Syria is Damascus and the head of Damascus is Rezin.
 - Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be broken so that it will not be a people.
 - The head of Ephraim is Samaria - and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son!
 - In spite of what MEN said - and what their PLANS were....
 - The MASTER [אֱדֹנָי] - who is the LORD [יְהוָה] said [perfect]
 - Their plan would NOT [לֹא] stand - it would NOT [לֹא] happen...
 - Because [כִּי] - SYRIA is only as strong as its CAPITOL [Damascus] - and its KING [Rezin]
 - SYRIA would fall to ASSYRIA and REZIN killed - that same year [732 B.C.] - **II Kings 16:9**
 - ISRAEL [Ephraim] - was only as strong as its CAPITOL [Samaria] - and its KING [Pekah]
 - Pekah would die that year - and SAMARIA fall TEN years later...
 - Only SIXTY FIVE years after Isaiah gave these words - they would cease to exist as a people!

- ISRAEL was conquered by ASSYRIA in 722 B.C. - **II Kings 17:6**
- The king of Assyria [Shalmaneser] took all of Israel captive to foreign lands [diaspora]
- Over the next 55 years - they would be absorbed into other cultures...
- And the TEN northern tribes would be lost to History – dispersed among the nations!

▪ The challenge... vs. 9

- If you will not believe - surely you shall not be established!
- JUDAH would NOT fall - instead SYRIA and ISRAEL would be conquered...
- But if AHAZ looked at the CIRCUMSTANCES [two armies at his gates]
- It would be HARD [if not impossible] to believe that...
- He had to choose to have [hiphil] FAITH [אָמַן] in the WORD of the LORD...
- IF [אִם] not [לֹא] - THEN [כִּי] he [specifically] would NOT be [niph'al] saved [אָמַן]!
- This is a HUGE challenge that EVERY person has to face...
- Who do we CHOOSE to listen to - where do we put our FAITH...
- If we look at our CIRCUMSTANCES - listen to the PLANS of men [who are going to fall]
- Then it should come as NO surprise - that we also are NOT going to succeed...
- But if we put our FAITH in the WORD of the LORD - who is the MASTER [אֱלֹהִים]
- Then we have the CONFIDENCE that everything will turn out RIGHT in the END!

● 2ND - IMMANUEL... vs. 10-25

o 1ST – The proof... vs. 10-13

▪ Ask the Lord... vs. 10-11

- The LORD spoke again to Ahaz saying: Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God.
- Ask it either in the depth or in the height above!
- God did NOT leave it there - He had MORE to say to AHAZ...
- Because AHAZ needed to have FAITH - God would give him a SIGN [אוֹת]
- He just had [imperative] to ASK the LORD [יְהוָה] his God [אֱלֹהֵיךָ] for PROOF...
- ANYTHING - from the depth of HELL [שְׁאוֹל] to the HIGHEST height - and God would do it!
- We believe the SUN will rise tomorrow morning...
- Not because we have great FAITH - it is because it is always FAITHFUL!
- God does NOT ask us to have incredible FAITH...
- Instead He continually shows Himself as FAITHFUL - He NEVER fails us...
- And if we are HONEST - and look back at His record - we know it...
- Therefore when He gives us a PROMISE - we can be CERTAIN He will keep it!

▪ Testing God... vs. 12

- But Ahaz said: I will not ask. Nor will I test the LORD!
- AHAZ was quick to REJECT the idea - he would NOT [לֹא] test the LORD [יְהוָה]
- This seems like it might be the RIGHT answer...
- Because we are commanded NOT to TEST the Lord - **Deuteronomy 6:16**
- Even Jesus when He was TEMPTED by satan - jump off the pinnacle of the TEMPLE...
- Would quote from this very VERSE - we should NOT tempt the LORD - **Matthew 4:7**

▪ Weary God... vs. 13

- Then he said: Hear now O house of David!
- Is it a small thing for you to weary men - but will you weary my God also?
- Yet ISAIAH rebuked AHAZ - commanding him to LISTEN [imperative]
- He was from the house of DAVID - who obeyed the WORD of the LORD...
- Did he think it was NOT enough to EXHAUST [hiphil] men with his FALSE piety...
- Now he wanted to IRRITATE [hiphil] the God of ISAIAH as well [no longer his God]!
- Like PETER who refused to EAT unclean animals - **Acts 10:14**
- It is NEVER a good idea to think we can say NO to the command of God!

- Too often people use the Bible as a way to EXCUSE their disobedience...
 - Picking and choosing what verse to follow - rather than simply LISTENING to the LORD!
- o 2nd - The Sign... vs. 14-16
- The virgin... vs. 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!
 - Since AHAZ would NOT obey the command of God...
 - Therefore [בֵּן] - the MASTER [אֲדֹנָי] would chose a SIGN [אוֹת] for him...
 - BEHOLD - the [הָ] VIRGIN shall get pregnant - and give birth to a SON...
 - VIRGIN [עַלְמָה] - the word just means a YOUNG woman [not necessarily a virgin]
 - The name of this SON - would be IMMANU [with us] EL [God]
 - Quite possibly [debated] the CHILD was the SON of the prophet - **Isaiah 8:4**
 - Choose good... vs. 15-16
 - Curds and honey He shall eat that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good!
 - For before the Child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good.
 - The land that you dread will be forsaken by both her kings!
 - This CHILD - would grow up eating BUTTER and HONEY [rich foods]
 - In a time when the city was BESIEGED [Syria and Israel] - this was unthinkable...
 - But [בֵּן] - BEFORE he was old enough to KNOW [יָדַע] what tastes GOOD or BAD [six months]
 - Both KINGS that AHAZ feared would [niphil] be defeated [and not by him]
 - This would be the PROOF that God was with Judah [Immanuel]!
 - It is estimated that there are FOUR babies born every SECOND...
 - I love that God uses something as COMMON as a women having a baby...
 - Something that literally happens every SECOND - as the PROOF that He is FAITHFUL...
 - The point is POWERFUL - it is NOT hard to see that God keeps His WORD!
 - Dual fulfillment...
 - Often Bible prophecies have DUAL fulfillment [makes them challenging]
 - This was fulfilled in the days of Isaiah – showing God is faithful – even to a WICKED king...
 - He was with His people – protected them from their enemy – gave them VICTORY...
 - But the same prophecy also looked forward to Jesus - **Matthew 1:23**
 - Notably the word in LXX [παρθένο] does mean VIRGIN!
- o 3rd - Rise of Assyria... vs. 17-25
- Judgement... vs. 17
 - The LORD will bring the king of Assyria upon you and your people and your fathers house.
 - Days that have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah!
 - The LORD [יְהוָה] would do SOMETHING not seen since ISRAEL left JUDAH - **I Kings 12:16**
 - Which up to that point had been the most DEVASTATING event in their history...
 - God would BRING [hiphil] the King of ASSYRIA upon AHAZ [הָאֲחָז]
 - They would come against JUDAH [people] - and the line of David [house]!
 - Pointing to the fact the trouble would span generations [Hezekiah]
 - Which might seem ODD - having just promised IMMANUEL [God with us]
 - But AHAZ did NOT just refuse to ask for a SIGN - he turned his back on God...
 - Instead of trusting in the WORD of the LORD - he went to the King of ASSYRIA...
 - And offering him the TREASURES of the HOUSE of God as a BRIBE - **II Chronicles 28:16-21**
 - To try and get him to HELP save himself and JUDAH [instead of looking to the LORD]!
 - Pain... vs. 18-19
 - It shall come to pass in that day that the LORD will whistle for the fly.
 - That is in the farthest part of the rivers of Egypt - for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.
 - They will come - and all of them will rest in the desolate valleys and in the clefts of the rocks.

- And on all thorns and in all pastures!
- As a result of NOT looking to the Lord - FOUR things would happen:
- FIRST - in that DAY [בַּיּוֹם] - the LORD would WHISTLE [call]
- The FLY [זָבִיבָה] - would come from the rivers of EGYPT [drawn to the death]
- The BEE - would come from ASSYRIA [that would STING Judah]
- They would be EVERYWHERE [3 - [כָּל for emphasis - valleys - mountains - pastures...
- It would NOT be fatal [unlike a lion] - but it would be PAINFUL!
- Shame ... vs. 20
 - In the same day the Lord will shave with a hired razor.
 - With those from beyond the River - with the king of Assyria.
 - The head and the hair of the legs - and will also remove the beard!
 - SECOND - in that DAY [בַּיּוֹם] - the MASTER [אֲדֹנָי] would hire a RAZOR...
 - The king of ASSYRIA from beyond the EUPHRATES river...
 - The SAME razor that AHAZ thought would be his SALVATION...
 - Would SHAVE [piel] the heads - legs - and beards of the men of JUDAH...
 - It was a sign of being DISGRACED by a conquering army - **II Samuel 10:4**
- Poverty... vs. 21-22
 - It shall be in that day that a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep.
 - So it shall be from the abundance of milk they give that he will eat curds.
 - For curds and honey everyone will eat who is left in the land!
 - THIRD - in that DAY [בַּיּוֹם] - a man would NOT kill his young COW and two SHEEP...
 - He would NEED their MILK to keep himself alive...
 - Because [כִּי] - there will ONLY be BUTTER and HONEY left in the LAND...
 - What was used before to show BLESSING - becomes the image of POVERTY!
- Ruin... vs. 23-25
 - It shall happen in that day that wherever there could be a thousand vines.
 - Worth a thousand shekels of silver - it will be for briers and thorns.
 - With arrows and bows men will come - because all the land will become briers and thorns.
 - To any hill which could be dug with the hoe - you will not go for fear of briers and thorns.
 - But it will become a range for oxen and a place for sheep to roam!
 - FOURTH - in that DAY [בַּיּוֹם] in the place where a THOUSAND vines used to grow...
 - That were worth a THOUSAND shekels of SILVER - only THORNS would grow...
 - Because [כִּי] - of the WAR that would DOMINATE the whole [כָּל] LAND [bows and arrows]
 - EVERY [כָּל] hill where men cultivated the LAND - they would NOT [לָא] go back to plant...
 - Instead THORNS would grow - and animals [ox - sheep] would be left to WANDER!
 - All Because rather than trust in the Lord – AHAZ looked to ASSYRIA...
 - And the RESULT was PAIN - SHAME - POVERTY - and RUIN!
 - **Jude 1:12** – “They are clouds without water.”
 - The world is full of the PROMISES – but they are EMPTY...
 - We are PROMISED if we get a good education [good job] – we will be HAPPY...
 - We are PROMISED if we have enough money – we will have NO worries...
 - But what the world does NOT tell us – only in Jesus are promises Yes and Amen!
 - **II Corinthians 1:20** - “All the promises of God in Him are Yes - and in Him Amen.”