

NOTES:

1 John 3:5 --- "but you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins."

Message by Dan Wilvers, Sunday December 16th, 2012



## Emmanuel

### "God is with us"

"...the Lord himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

#### **The historical setting of the prophecy:**

The time is 734B.C. Ahaz is King over the southern portion of a divided Kingdom that is called Judah. It's Northern counterpart is called Israel.

During the time that Ahaz son of Jothan, son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, Isaiah 7:1

#### **2 Kings gives a synopsis of the story of King Ahaz of Judah**

Ahaz son of Jotham began to rule over Judah in the seventeenth year of King Pekah's reign in Israel. 2 Ahaz was twenty years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem sixteen years. He did not do what was pleasing in the sight of the Lord his God, as his ancestor David had done. 3 Instead, he followed the example of the kings of Israel, even sacrificing his own son in the fire. 2 Kings 16:1-3

#### **The ten tribes of Israel had joined in a military alliance with Syria intending to re-invade the southern kingdom of Judah.**

King Rezin of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah, the king of Israel, set out to attack Jerusalem. However, they were unable to carry out their plan. 2 The news had come to the royal court of Judah: "Syria is allied with Israel against us!" So the hearts of the king and his people trembled with fear, like trees shaking in a storm. Isaiah 7:1b,2

## Ahaz and his people are scared, so Ahaz attempts to enter into an un-holy alliance.

King Ahaz sent messengers to King Tiglath-pileser of Assyria with this message: "I am your servant and your vassal. Come up and rescue me from the attacking armies of Syria and Israel." 8 Then Ahaz took the silver and gold from the Temple of the Lord and the palace treasury and sent it as a payment to the Assyrian king. 2 Kings 16:7,8

## God sends Isaiah to an exact location to speak to Ahaz

Then the Lord said to Isaiah, "Take your son Shear-jashub and go out to meet King Ahaz. You will find him at the end of the aqueduct that feeds water into the upper pool, near the road leading to the field where cloth is washed. Isaiah 7:3

"Go forth to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Fuller's Field, Isaiah 7:3 of the Revised Standard Version

**Homographs-** *Look alike, sound alike but mean two different things.*  
BOW- to bow at the waist, or bow of a boat,

*...the upper pool on the highway to the Fuller's Field,*

Pool can also mean "blessing."

Upper can also mean "the most high"

upper pool means "blessings of the Most High"

*highway to the Fuller's Field*

*Highway* is always an ascent. In this case it was

*"The highway to holiness (see Isaiah 35) led to Fuller's Field.*

*Fuller* in older English meant-washerwoman or laundryman

*Fuller's Field* means public laundry

When these meanings are considered we see why the prophet was sent to where these two places met – it was where the "upward way of cleansing and of washing, met the downward flow of the channel of the blessings of the Most High."

What would that symbolize? From the New Testament, we know it could only describe the Lord Jesus himself.

## Would King Ahaz exercise faith?

4 (God through Isaiah) Tell him (Ahaz) to stop worrying. Tell him he doesn't need to fear the fierce anger of those two burned-out embers, King Rezin of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah. 5 Yes, the kings of Syria and Israel are plotting against him, saying, 6 'We will attack Judah and capture it for ourselves. Then we will install the son of Tabeel as Judah's king.' 7 But this is what the Sovereign Lord says: "This invasion will never happen; it will never take place; 8 for Syria is no stronger than its capital, Damascus, and Damascus is no stronger than its king, Rezin. As for Israel, within sixty-five years it will be crushed and completely destroyed. Israel is no stronger than its capital, Samaria, and Samaria is no stronger than its king, Pekah son of Remaliah. 9 Unless your faith (Ahaz's) is firm, I cannot make you stand firm." Isaiah 7:4-9

## God is willing to prove His word

"Ask me for a sign, Ahaz, to prove that I will crush your enemies as I have promised. Ask for anything you like, and make it as difficult as you want." Isaiah 7:11

But the king refused. "No," he said, "I wouldn't test the Lord like that." 13 Then Isaiah said, "Listen well, you royal family of David! You aren't satisfied to exhaust my patience. You exhaust the patience of God as well! Isaiah 7:12,13

## God gives the royal house of David His sign

All right then, the Lord himself will choose the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel—'God is with us.' Isaiah 7:14

## God gives Ahaz his sign

By the time this child (Shear-jashub) is old enough to eat curds and honey, he will know enough to choose what is right and reject what is wrong. 16 But before he knows right from wrong, the two kings you fear so much—the kings of Israel and Aram—will both be dead. 17 "The Lord will bring a terrible curse on you, your nation, and your family. You will soon experience greater terror than has been known in all the years since Solomon's empire was divided into Israel and Judah. The mighty king of Assyria will come with his great army!" Isaiah 7:15-17