### Isaiah

## Chapter 7

1It was in the days of Ahaz (son of JoTham and grandson of UzziAh) the king of Judah, that King Rezin of Aram and PekAh (son of RemaliAh) the king of IsraEl came to JeruSalem to wage war against it… However, they were unable to conquer it.  
  
2But when the house of David was told that [the Kingdom of] Aram had joined forces with Ephraim, they were startled and the souls of the people were shaken like a forest of trees in a windstorm!  
  
3Then the Lord said this to IsaiAh:  
  
 ‘You and your son JaSub, the one whom you left behind, must now go to meet with [King] Ahaz at the upper pool of the washer women, 4and you must tell him:  
  
 ‘Do nothing at all and don’t be afraid…  
 Don’t let those two pieces of smoking wood  
 Make you feel weak [in your knees].  
 For, when I [send] them My rage,  
 You will be saved once again.’  
  
 5‘And as for the sons of RemaliAh and Aram... Because they met and wickedly agreed 6to come to Judah together to conquer and rule over you by setting TabeAl’s son [on the throne]… 7Tell him that Jehovah of Armies said this:  
  
 ‘There’s no way that your plan will succeed…  
 It will never take place.  
  
 8‘For the head of Aram is Damascus,  
 And the head of Damascus is Rezin.  
 Thus in six, plus another five years,  
 These people will destroy Ephraim.  
  
 9‘For the head of Ephraim is Samaria,  
 And the head of Samaria is the son of RemaliAh…  
 But, no one will understand, unless they believe.’  
  
  
10Then Jehovah [sent a message to] Ahaz, that said:  
  
 11‘Ask for a sign from Jehovah your God,  
 Whether from the depths or the heights.’  
  
12And Ahaz replied:  
  
 ‘There’s no way that I’ll ask, nor will I put Jehovah to the test!’  
  
13So [the messenger] said:  
  
 ‘Listen to this, O house of David…  
 If it’s too unimportant a thing  
 To supply enough men for a battle;  
 How can you fight a war for the Lord?  
  
 14‘Now, Jehovah will give you a sign…  
 {Look!} A virgin will get pregnant and then bear a son  
 Whom you must call, ImManuEl [meaning, ‘God is with us’].  
 15He’ll eat butter and honey before he is sure  
 Whether he wants to be wicked or good.  
  
 16‘But, before the boy can know good from bad,  
 By resisting wicked persuasions,  
 He will choose to do what is right. [see note]  
 Even the land of two kings of which you’re afraid  
 Will be totally abandoned!  
  
 17‘But first, God will bring Assyria’s king  
 Upon you, your people, and the house of your father…  
 These will be unlike any days that have come  
 Since Ephraim split off from Judah.  
  
 18‘For, in that day, Jehovah will whistle  
 And call for the flies on the [Nile],  
 As well as for Assyria’s bees.  
 19Then they’ll come and settle in your valleys…  
 In the burrows, rocks, and in caves…  
 In every hole and in all the trees.  
  
 20‘In that day, Jehovah will speak,  
 And He’ll tell Assyria’s king  
 To bring his razor and shave off those drunks  
 [Who live] on the river’s [east banks].  
 Then he’ll shave their heads and the hair on their feet,  
 Before he cuts off their beards.  
  
 21‘But, in that day, each man who is left  
 Will have a cow and two sheep.  
 22So, there will be milk for those who remain,  
 And [plenty of] butter and honey.  
  
 23‘Yet, in that day;  
 Where once grew thousands of grapevines  
 Valued at thousands in silver,  
 Only thorn bushes will grow.  
 For, grape cultivation will have ceased.  
 24Then, with bows and arrows they’ll [hunt] there;  
 For the land will be wild and covered with thorns.  
  
 25‘But thereafter, they’ll plow up the mountains,  
 And they won’t be afraid anymore;  
 For that uncultivated land of thorn bushes  
 Will then become a pasture for sheep,  
 And a land that is trampled by oxen.’