

The Coming of Christ

Lesson 2

Isaiah 7:1-17

December 11, 2022

Supernatural Living in a Secular World

INTRODUCTION

The Lord, our God, is almighty. This is an extremely important idea as it declares God as being entirely able to accomplish what He says no matter what the circumstance or scale. The implication is that God is not limited in His power or His attention to all aspects of human activity and is subject to no one.

In the verses we'll study, we will see that God wields complete authority over kings and nations throughout hundreds of years but also speaks directly to people's hearts. That's quite a contrast!

Ultimately, God desires our faith in Him, which often means remembering who God is: entirely superior to powers and authorities and earthly societal structures in place around us. Our allegiance and obedience belong to Him first.

Memory verse: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."—Isaiah 7:14

Pray, and read Isaiah 7:1-17. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?

1. What was the house of David told was happening, and how did king Ahaz and the people of Judah react? (Isaiah 7:1-2)
2. What did God instruct Isaiah to say to King Ahaz? (Isaiah 7:4-7)
3. What does God say about the head of Aram and the head of Ephraim? (Isaiah 7:8-9)
4. What is Ahaz's response to God when God instructed him to ask for a sign? (Isaiah 7:12)
5. What sign does God give through Isaiah? (Isaiah 7:14-16)

INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?

1. God referred to the allied kings of Aram and Ephraim as “smoldering stubs of firewood”. (Isaiah 7:4) What is God saying about Judah’s fear of being destroyed by those kings? (Deuteronomy 20:3; Isaiah 7:4; Matthew 24:6)

2. God uses the word “only” when referring to the heads of Aram and Ephraim. (Isaiah 7: 8-9) Why is this word significant, and what is God implying about His position in the grand scheme of power at work in the world? (2 Chronicles 33:10-13; Matthew 28:18; Revelation 1:8)

3. Ahaz refuses to ask God for a sign (Isaiah 7:10-12), but God gives him one anyway: “The virgin will...give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”; Isaiah 7:14-16). Who is Immanuel? (Matthew 1:22-23, 28:20; John 1:14)

4. God chastises Ahaz by also proclaiming an unpleasant sign. What does bringing the King of Assyria imply to the Kingdom of Judah (Isaiah 7:17), and what does this further underscore about God's authority? (Habakkuk 1:6; Exodus 6:1)

APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. What troubles has God brought you through in times past? Reflect on these, and write a prayer of praise to God for His power and goodness.

