

¹⁰ Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their [hearts]⁵², and [be converted]⁵³ and be healed.”

Isaiah ¹¹ Then said I: “How long, O LORD?” And He said:

The LORD “Until the cities lie ruined without inhabitant, and the houses without a human, and the land lies wasted and desolate.”

Isaiah ¹² And the LORD will remove the human far away, [for there will be]⁵⁴ a great forsaking in the land. ¹³ And yet [there]⁵⁵ will be a tenth, and [they] {the tenth} will return. And it will burn like a terebinth and an oak, which though felled have a trunk that remains—the holy seed is the trunk.⁵⁶

EPHRAIM AND SYRIA WAR AGAINST JUDAH (7:1-9)

Isaiah **7** And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz, the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Aram, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up to war against Jerusalem, but he was not able to conquer it. ² When it was reported to the house of David, saying,

Unnamed individual “Aram is in league with Ephraim,”

Isaiah then the hearts of Ahaz and his people shook, just like the trees of the forest shake before the wind. ³ Then the LORD said to Isaiah,

The LORD “Go forth now to meet Ahaz, you and your son Shear-jashub⁵⁷, at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool on the road to the Launderer’s Field,

⁴ and say to him, ‘Be careful, and be quiet; do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint,

52. From JST.

53. From 2 Nephi 16:10.

54. From JST and 2 Nephi 16:12.

55. Bracketed words in verse 13 are from JST and 2 Nephi 16:13.

56. The Hebrew in this verse poses difficulties and so is challenging to translate.

57. The Hebrew name Shear-jashub means “a remnant will return.” In view of the imminent war with Assyria, Shear-jashub was a living symbol that a remnant of Israel would indeed return to its land and its God despite the fact that Israel would soon be scattered and, for the most part, destroyed.

because of these two smoldering sticks of firewood,
because of the raging of Rezin and Aram, and of the son of Remaliah.

⁵ Because Aram, Ephraim,
and the son of Remaliah have plotted evil against you,' saying,

The Two Kings ⁶ 'Let us go up against Judah, and terrify it, and divide it among ourselves, and let us install the son of Tabeal as king over it.'"

Isaiah ⁷ Thus says my Lord, the LORD,

The LORD "It will not happen;
it will not come to pass.

⁸ For the head of Aram is Damascus,
and the head of Damascus is Rezin;
and within sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered,
that it is no longer a people.

⁹ And the head of Ephraim is Samaria,
and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son.

If you do not trust,
surely you will not hold firm."

THE SIGN TO AHAZ: THE IMMANUEL PROPHECY (7:10-16)

Isaiah ¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke unto Ahaz, saying,

The LORD ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the LORD your God;
let it be in the depths of Sheol
or the heights above."

Isaiah ¹² But Ahaz said,

Ahaz "I will not ask,
neither will I test the LORD."

Isaiah ¹³ And {Isaiah} said, "Hear now, O house of David;
is it a small thing for you to try the patience of men,
but will you try the patience of my God also?

¹⁴ Therefore the LORD Himself will give you a sign—
behold, the virgin⁵⁸ will conceive
and will bear a son and call His name Immanuel.⁵⁹

58. My translation "virgin" is based on the Greek Septuagint, the Vulgate, and the Syriac. Note also that the KJV, ESV, NIV and other translations read "virgin." Compare Proverbs 30:19. The English translation of the Hebrew *almah* is "marriageable girl" or "young woman." For Mary as a virgin, see Luke 1:27 and 1 Nephi 11:13, 15, 18.

59. In Hebrew, literally "God with us" or "God is with us".

¹⁵ He will eat butter⁶⁰ and honey, until he knows to refuse the evil, and to choose the good.

¹⁶ For before the child knows to refuse the evil and choose the good,

the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted.”

ASSYRIA'S INVASION OF JUDAH (7:17-25)

Isaiah ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you
(to Ahaz) and upon your people
and upon your father's house

days that have not come,
from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—
the king of Assyria!

Isaiah ¹⁸ And it will come to pass in that day

that the LORD will whistle for the fly that is in the end of Egypt⁶¹
and for the bees that are in the land of Assyria.

¹⁹ And they will come, and all of them rest in the steep ravines,
and in the crevices of the rocks,

and upon all thorn bushes,
and at all the watering places.

²⁰ In that day the LORD will use the king of Assyria, hired
beyond the river, to shave with a razor:

the head and the hair of the private parts,⁶²
and he will also snatch away the beard.

²¹ And it will come to pass in that day that a man will keep alive
a heifer of the herd and two sheep;

²² and it will come to pass because they will give an abundance
of milk,

he will eat butter;
and everyone who is left in the land will eat butter and honey.

²³ And it will come to pass in that day, every place that used to
have a thousand vines worth a thousand pieces of silver will be
thorns and briars.

60. "Butter" (Hebrew *chemah*) can also be translated "cream" or "sour milk."

61. The JST omits "part of the rivers of."

62. The Hebrew literally reads, "the hair of the feet," where "feet" is a euphemism for private parts.

²⁴ Men will come there with arrows and bows,
because all the land will become briars and thorns.

²⁵ And all mountains that were once cultivated with the hoe,
one will no longer come there out of fear for briars and thorns,
but they will become places where cattle are turned loose
and where sheep tread.

THE IMMANUEL PROPHECY: FIRST FULFILLMENT (8:1-4)

Isaiah **8** And [the word of]⁶³ the LORD said to me,

The LORD “Take for yourself a great tablet and write on it with an ordinary engraving tool: ‘Maher-shalal-hash-baz⁶⁴.’”

Isaiah ² And I took faithful witnesses for me—Uriah the priest and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah. ³ And I drew close to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son. Then the LORD said to me,

The LORD “Call his name Maher-shalal-hash-baz. ⁴ For [behold]⁶⁵ the child will [not] have knowledge to cry, ‘My father and my mother!’ [before] the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be taken away by the king of Assyria.”

REJECTING THE LORD, WHO IS THE WATERS OF SHILOAH (8:5-10)

Isaiah ⁵ The LORD spoke unto me again, saying,

The LORD ⁶ “Because this people refuse the waters of Shiloah that flow gently, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah’s son,”

Isaiah ⁷ now therefore, behold, the LORD brings upon them the waters of the river,
mighty and many, even the king of Assyria and all his glory;
and it will come up over all its streambed,
and go over all its banks.

⁸ And it will pass over Judah;
it will overflow and go over

63. From JST and 2 Nephi 18.

64. A prophetic name in Hebrew; it translates into these four words: “speed,” “spoil,” “hasten,” “plunder.”

65. Bracketed words in verse 4 are from JST and 2 Nephi 18:4.