ISAIAH 7 & 8

WHO ARE YOU RELYING ON? Tim Goodall 23 September 2012



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Historical Background (7:1-2)

- 931 BC Solomon dies & kingdom is divided
- 742 BC Ahaz ascends to throne in Judah
- 734 BC Isaiah's message from God to Ahaz (Isaiah 7)
- At this time Pekah is king of Israel, and Rezin the king of Aram (Syria)
- Ahaz an evil king (1 Kings 16, 2 Chronicles 28)
- House of David = Judah
- Ephraim = Israel

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The Offer (7:3-9)

- Shear-Jashub a remnant shall return / repent
- God is not blind to the plight of Judah
- 'Be careful, keep calm, do not be afraid' v.4
- Warning: stand firm in your faith.

The Rejection (7:10-12)

- God offers Ahaz a sign of his own choosing (v.10-11)
- Ahaz attempts to subtly reject Isaiah and God (v.12)
- Beware of our hearts!
- Ahaz already had his mind made up

The Consequences (7:13-25)

- Isaiah's holy indignation (v.13)
- In judgment, God remembers mercy
- God's sign: the virgin will give birth to a son:
 - · Immediate context
 - A remnant will emerge
 - Curds & Honey (v.15, 22)
 - Assyria, the Lord's razor
 - Matthew's context Christ:
 - · 'God with us'

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The Commentary (ch.8)

- Maher-Shalal-Has-Baz: 'quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil' (v.1-4)
- River that burst it's banks (v.5-10)
- A sanctuary and a stumbling stone (v. 11-15)
- The gathering darkness increases (v. 16-22)

What for us now?

- •CHOICE
- WHATEVER WE RELY ON INSTEAD OF GOD WILL DEVOUR US

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