

The Promise of Immanuel  
Isaiah 7:10-16  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn from Ahaz in this chapter and from the promise God made.

Introduction

I. Background of the promise (7:1-9)

A. News of an invasion (7:1-2)

1. Jerusalem besieged by Syria & Israel (2 Kings 16:5)
- 2.

B. Confrontation between belief & unbelief (v.3-9)

1. (v.3) Shear-jashub (Isaiah's son), his name means "A remnant shall return"
2. (v.3) If Ahaz proved unfaithful, neither he nor the house of David would "be established" (v.9), that is continue to exist.
  - a. Even so, there would always be a remnant (1:9).
3. (v.4) – Isaiah displayed courageous faith, whereas Ahaz was filled with terror and trembling.
  - a. Jehovah refers to Rezin and Remaliah's son Pekah the cause of Ahaz's fear, as two tails of smoking fire brands.
    - i. Their fierceness is burned out, they are like the ends of two burnt sticks, smoking after the fire, with their power gone, they are nothing to be afraid of.
4. (v.5-6) – Rezin and Pekah had purposed evil against Ahaz. They intended to provoke, Judah to anger, to make a breach in the city, remove Ahaz, and set up their own king.
  - a. Jehovah however would not allow this to happen (v.7).
5. (v.8-9) Syria is all that Damascus will rule; "and the head of Damascus is Rezin", that is, his headship shall not extend beyond Syria.
  - a. Ephraim would be broken up and destroyed as a nation.
  - b. Without faith Ahaz has no stability.

II. The Sign and the Promise (v.10-17)

A. Ahaz rejected God's offer of a sign (7:10-12)

1. Ahaz did not ask out of a sign of rebellion not humbleness.
2. As a result this angered the Lord, Isaiah tells him he is wearisome to God (7:13)

B. The Promise (v.14-16)

1. **(v.14) The word in the Hebrew is "almah", it occurs 6 times in addition to this verse.**
  - a. **In each instance refers to an unmarried, chaste maiden.**
    - i. **Genesis 24:16, Exodus 2:8, Psalm 68:25, Song of Solomon (1:3;6:8), Proverbs 30:19.**
    - ii. Immanuel – God with us, a further indication that the Son will be a special divine being.

- iii. Two more times Isaiah uses this name (8:5-8; 9-10)
    - i. The prophets seems to look to Him who is to come as though He was already on earth.
  - b. In future prophecies Isaiah will present the Him as “Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of People.”
    - i. The government of God’s kingdom will rest on His shoulders (9:6-7).
    - ii. This one to come will be the Branch of Jesse (thus a descendant of David), and on Him the Spirit of Jehovah will rest.
  - c. Isaiah next introduces Him as “God with us”. Bringing someone into the world who is both God and man, thus requiring a special means of entrance.
    - i. All of which can be seen in the gospel accounts.
  - d. (v.15) – He would grow up in humble circumstances and his diet would consist of “curds and honey”, food available during times of scarcity.
  - e. (v.16) – Before the birth of the child the land of Israel, concerning which Ahaz was upset, would be abandoned by both of her kings.
- C. Punishment of unbelievers (v17-25)
1. The remainder of this chapter is a description of the devastation of the land by the Assyrians, which Jehovah will bring upon Ahaz.

### III. Lessons for us today.

- A. The rebellious and stubborn disobey God (v.10-13)
  1. Ahaz said no to God, such a reaction merits punishment.
  2. He wanted no evidence of God’s word being true.
    - a. God gave it anyway (v.14)
- B. God’s promise came to be
  1. God keeps his promises, and fulfills the prophecies He makes.
  2. Christ coming as God said he would, living as God said He would is a fulfillment of God’s word and a fulfillment of the sign given, despite the stubborn Ahaz.

### Application & Conclusion:

1. We can learn from Ahaz not to be stubborn and to listen to God.
2. Let us be like Isaiah who listened to God and was faithful to Him.
3. Full Invitation

### Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

### Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9