## PROPHETS AND PROPHECY

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Syria (I Kings 20:13), the king of Israel asked 1 about the conduct of the battle, and the prophet 2 3 went on to give God's answer to the king's questions. A little later, when a king of Israel's aide declared impossible the almost unbelievable 5 6 deliverance that Elisha had promised, the 7 prophet proceeded to depict the fate in store for that ungodly man (II Kings 7:1-2). When God g directed Isaiah to deliver a message of hope to 10 Ahaz (Isaiah 7:3-9) and Ahaz showed an attitude of contemptuous unbelief, the Lord gave the 11 12 prophet a further message of terrible rebuke 13 (v.10-25).

The traditio-historical school of critics holds that all the work of the prophets consisted of short pithy statements that were remembered, enlarged and added to by their followers in subsequent generations. This, however, is quite in contradiction to the Scriptural record which declares that the prophets also delivered many messages of considerable length.

23 2. Longer Oral Messages. An early
24 instance in the Scripture of long oral messages
25 given by a prophet is found in the long state-

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29

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