

Survey of Isa. 7-12, 28-35

June 15, 1972

in the time of Ahaz -- a strong man, a political leader. One who looks at political situations and tries to handle them the best he can but does not succeed. And as a result his kgdm. is overrun by the Assyrians, and his reign comes to an end. His son reigns only briefly, and then K. Hoshea becomes king and reigns only for 9 yrs. before the Assyrians come and dethrone him, and put an utter end to the K. of Israel.

We should be sure exactly what we have in mind by the Kings of Judah and Kings of Israel. Israel is the Northern Kingdom, ~~Israh~~ Judah the Southern kingdom. Judah is actually about a tribe and a half. We usually speak of it as two tribes. Israel is about 10! tribes. We usually speak of it as the 10 tribes. Israel is much larger, but Judah tho it has less people, less land than Israel, has a more wealthy area. So Judah is actually maybe half or more as strong as Israel. Though simply in numbers of tribes and numbers of people you would think it was far less than that. Judah is a strong contender against Israel - the N. kingdom = but Israel is nearly twice as large and has 10 tribes instead of two.

And there are two kings of Assyria who enter into the background of this area. One of them is Tiglath-Pilizer; the other is his grt. grandson, Zennacherib. They are kings of this area over near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, some hundredsof miles east of Israel. Kings ~~whom~~ who led their armies in great conquests, constantly conquering more and more areas, until the Assyrian empire was the first great world empire that covered a tremendous part of that part of the Near East and was a great menace to all the small nations who saw it gobbling up neighboring nations and knew their turn come next.

Then I mention here the Syro-Ephramitic invasion and its aftermath. Here there is something that is very unfortunate for the understanding of most people about the historic background of the later part of the OT, We refer to the nation that was north and east of Israel as Syria, and many people get Syria and Assyria mixed. Actually in the Bible Syria is called Aram. Aram was its original name. They were the Arameans. And Assyria is the grt. empire much further east of Syria, but ~~by~~ Assyria conquered