

In chapter 7 we find Ahaz who is the head of the house of David, but who does not have much faith in God. And Isaiah tells Ahaz not to be worried about these people who are attacking. We read that he says in verse 7, "Thus saith the Lord God" this attack against you "shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people, and the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established." Why should he say that? Why should he, after giving them a promise that God is going to bless them and protect them say, "If you won't believe you won't be established."? What is the purpose of bringing in such a statement? Right after a declaration of God's promise. Is it not that it is perfectly evident in the manner of the king, that the king is not much interested. The king wants to get rid of this fellow, Isaiah. Well, he's alright. Religion is good for the people to keep them orderly, and obedient, etc, but here I'm busy preparing for war and I've got to get everything rapidly, and I don't want this man delaying me, and wasting time. And so he looks disgusted. What is it? What if Ephraem is going to be no longer a people 65 years from now. Long before that they will conquer us and destroy us. And Isaiah says that you will not believe, surely you shall not be attacked. If you don't put trust in God when He is giving you these promises even though they do seem to you to be pretty off, 65 years. If you won't put trust in Him, why, you shall not be established. You are going to suffer.

But then in verse 10, "moreover, the Lord spake ~~me~~ again unto Ahaz saying, ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above." Isn't that a wonderful opportunity? You want to know if this is true? Well, ask for a sign. God will give you a sign. God doesn't often say that. People asked Jesus for a sign. Jesus said, there shall be no sign given to you except the sign of the prophet ~~Jonas~~. He said, a wicked and adulterous ~~man~~ generation ask for a sign, and he would give it to them. But now God offers them a sign. "Ask a sign of the Lord. Ask it in the depth, or in the height above." Ahaz might have said, let the sun turn to green. If I see the sun turn green, I'll know that God is able to do that and God is able to