

Protect us. Now what does Ahaz do? Ahaz said, "I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord." Why should he tempt the Lord? You shall take the Lord at His word. You don't need to ask for a sign. It is a sign of unbelief to ask the Lord. But it is a worse sign of unbelief not to be interested. Just don't believe, and you don't care. Just don't say anything. That's much worse. And which was true of Ahaz? Well, Ahaz shows us. I think that Ahaz couldn't avoid it. Ahaz' appearance of his face entered into it, because Isaiah doesn't say, "Isn't that a lovely spiritual attitude that Ahaz is taking?" He says, the exact opposite. He says, "Here ye now, O house of David. Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign." And what is the sign? God is not going to put up with such a man as Ahaz as head of the house of David forever. Ahaz is going to lose his position as head of the house of David and God is going to provide His own son, supernaturally formed, His own son is going to take his place. He doesn't say when this is going to happen. But it is sometime going to happen. So Ahaz is going to be replaced by one who is supernaturally born.

Well now, there may not seem to be much connection between Isaiah 5 and Isaiah 7, but I think both of them connect up very definitely with Isaiah 29. Because in Isaiah 29, we have studied this rather carefully together, and we have noticed that in Isaiah 29 we had Isaiah speaking to the nobles in the same situation in which Isaiah in 7 was speaking to the king. And speaking to these nobles he tells them that God is disgusted with the way they are trusting man instead of trusting God. And he says that - verse 10 "The Lord has poured upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes. The prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered."

Isaiah 70.

He shows their indifference in verses 11 and 12. They're always making excuses. They are not interested in the Lord's will. They are just like Ahaz was when he said, "I won't tempt the Lord. I won't ask for a sign." So the Lord says in verse 13, "Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me, is taught by the precept of men; therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this