

In Kings and Chron. we read how they actually attacked and for a brief time held Jerusalem, and took a great many people captive. And then went back and it was expected they would make another attack, and so Ahaz was very much disturbed over whether ~~whazzz~~ he could hold it out. It would be a tough thing to hold out against Israel. To hold out against Israel and Syria would be still harder. Now we do not have material left by the kings of Syria, or the Kings of Israel aside from what's in the Bible. The Kings of Syria doubtless have their annals and their records but all that we have of the kings of Syria are a few brief inscriptions in connections with a monument or something like that. Very, very brief. But beyond Syria off across the desert is this great kgdm. of Assyria and ~~in~~ in Assyria they wrote their records on clay tablets which are almost indestructible. And from these kings, Tiglath Pilezer and Sennacherib and other kings of Assyria we have long accounts of the events of their reign. And so what we know about Syria has to be gathered from the references in the Bible which are not very extensive, and from the references in the Assyrian records which are not very extensive. And so there is quite an area for guessing. And most historians guess that Syria was very much affraid of the coming ~~fm~~ of the Assyrians and therefore asked Israel to unite with them in holding back the Assyrians. And then Israel asked Judah to help them and Judah refused. Now we are not sure of that. It is a guess. But there is much reason to think that it might be a true guess. But they asked Judah to join with them and Judah did not want to get mixed in it. And so they said we can't risk having Assyria attack us from one side ~~and~~ and Judah from the other, we'd better overcome Judah and take its resources to use against Assyria. Whether that is true or not, we find in Kings and Chron. and here in Isa. that the kings of ~~Israell~~ Syria and the Kings of ~~Assyria~~ Israel united ~~in~~ forces in order to conquer Judah. So Judah was filled with terror facing this, and facing this terrible danger, then K. Ahaz thought of a very clever political scheme, and we don't read about the scheme in Isa. here tho we have many allusions to it in Isa. But we read about it in Kings and Chron. how he sent to the K. ~~if~~ of Assyria. Now that of course is a very common political stunt, is when you are faced by an enemy to make friends with his enemy.