

Survey of Isa. 7-12, 28-35

June 15, 1972

history of Judah was God's deliverance of them, His protection of them, ~~and~~ from this tremendous attack of Sennacherib which they couldn't possibly have overcome by human force. So these are two grt. tremendous events which took place in the life of Isaiah: The attack of the Syrians and the Ephramites ~~son~~ where the king of Judah failed because he looked to political schemes to protect himself. Isaiah warns him against these schemes, tells them they won't work, they don't work, they result in == well, perhaps you might say they gain a little time, they keep Jerusalem from being taken by Israel and Assyria, but God said, I can protect you. You should trust me. But you're scheme simply does away with the buffer states and brings Assyria right next to you. And 30 yrs. ~~later~~ ^{later} we have Assyria actually attacking, a far greater attack than the earlier one where Ahaz has refused to trust God and trusted in the arm of flesh, we have here the attack by the grt. Assyrian army and the marvellous intervention that God did in a supernatural way in order to destroy these people. Now I say supernatural, that doesn't mean God, Let all these people be dead and it just happened like that. God can certainly do that if he chooses. But ordinarily God uses means. And there is an Egyptian story about K. Sennacherib that at one time when the Egyptians were fearing a grt. attack by ~~the~~ Sennacherib, that a grt. number of mice ate up the bowstrings of the Assyrians and left them unable to make their attack, and so he failed to take Egypt. Now that story among the Egyptians has led some historians to say the ref. to the mice, etc. ~~diff~~ suggests that it was bubonic plague that destroyed ...that would be carried by mice ... and destroy this grt. number of Assyrians. Now ~~we~~ we don't know, God may have used any one of a number of ~~diffet~~ different means. Bubonic plague sounds a reasonable as any. All we know God caused that suddenly in the Assyrian army there would be this tremendous number of casualties so that all that the king could do was to go back home because he did not have a force that could continue ~~weh~~ what he was trying to do.

Now it continues in Isa. 37, So Sennacherib King of Assyria departed and went and returned and dwelt at Nineval, and it came to pass as he was worshipping in the