

now you notice what has happened to 30.8. He says: Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever, or for a witness forever. He is told to go and to write something down. Remember that back, there was a similar command, wasn't there, in chapter 8. In chapter 8 it seems to me, yes, in chapter 8, you remember, it says: Moreover the Lord said to me, Take thee a great roll and write in it with a man's pen concerning Maher-shalal-hashbaz. That would certainly suggest that he began to talk to Ahaz outside the wall there and that the message given in chapter 7 was given there, but then that the Lord told him to go on and complete the message in writing, and that he wrote the rest of the message, perhaps then, perhaps a little later, but that he completed God's message in writing, and in this case it would look to me as if there is at least a strong possibility that he perhaps got as far in his discourse as this, and then that the Lord told him, now write the rest of it. He is talking to the nobles, it seems to me. Woe to the rebellious children, 30.1, but now in v.8 it says, now go--who is to go? That's not the nobles. That's Isaiah, so the Lord interrupts the message, and tells him to write it down. Now it just does seem to me as if 8 on, that next part seems so vividly direct that it's hard to get away from some of that at least being addressed right to the people. Maybe he gave parts (8) at different times. I don't know, but 28 and 29 are so directly right at the situation of the banquet, 30 seems to follow so directly, my inclination is to think that you have one discourse, looking forward to the future, and showing, well, this is what you're going to do. Yes, you're going to send all this stuff to the south, you're going to go into all this, but it won't accomplish anything, Egypt won't be any help, and then you can imagine twenty years later, in the days of Hezekiah and Sennacherib, you can imagine the people saying look at all this stuff that they've been sending to Egypt, look at all this, remember what Isaiah said, he pointed out (8 3/4) we'd go through all this, but what's it done? Here we are, here is Sennacherib, what (8 3/4) they're not doing anything,