

Bible (Schultz: The Old Testament Speaks) or a commentary on Isaiah (E.J. Young very good on the historical data) It is a critical time in Judah's history and Isaiah will give a word from God that should give the king of Judah guidance for the moment and the people of God hope for the future.

B. The predictions:

1. vs 7---The plans of the enemies of Judah will not succeed
2. vs 8---In 65 years the northern kingdom will no longer be a recognized nation.
3. vs 9---The king will be established if he believes, will not be established if he does not believe.

These immediate prophecies should have directed Ahaz (king) to turn from his idolatrous worship and come back to God. But the benefit he will derive depends on his believing...notice that the events predicted will come to pass whether he believes or not! God is in control and is overseeing His people and bringing to pass a program of deliverance.

4. vss 10-13 display the wicked attitude of the king on the basis of a false presumption. He will not tempt God! the old hypocrite. Since he will not ask for a sign of God's deliverance God will give a sign himself to the "house of David" and all who follow. This sign will be in three parts:

- a virgin will be pregnant
- will bear a son
- will call his name Immanuel

5. This prophecy will stabilize the nation even when the advice of God for the present is overlooked. God is speaking redemptive to all of His people in all ages. Note how this is seen in Galatians 4:4-5. Now this prophecy will not be fulfilled for a long time so the earlier prophecies (vss 7-9) will prove that God has spoken and will give the courage to believe in what will yet come.

III. Conclusion: God's deliverance is not our idea of something we have contrived to deliver ourselves. It is part of His plan and power and while we live now looking for the coming of Christ, the work of God in the past assures us that He will continue to work and bring to pass