

Dec 11th 2005: Youth Service: Matt 1:18-25: Immanuel

It was a very bad time.....for a very bad king....and some might say....he deserved...

Ahaz was just 20.....king of Judah

He followed...Jotham.....good king....**So the contrast** ...obvious

2 Chron 28: says of Ahaz v2—4

Ahaz led God's people into great sin.....and therefore God brought judgment
28:5 says.....

Now it is this same judgment.....read about in *Isaiah 7:1-2.....*

So here is Ahaz.....enduring God's judgment.....Panic stricken about the future

And God sends Isaiah to him...evil though....with a message of hope.

Don't be afraid of these two Nations...God says....

They intend to destroy you.....But I won't let it happen

They might look real scary now.....But within 65yrs.....

But king Ahaz is not convinced

He knows his sinful ways.....and he is not confident that God.....

In fact.....He was even then planning to go to Assyria for help.....

But God knows his heart.....He knows what he is planning.....thinking....

So through Isaiah God offers Ahaz a sign.....in *7:10-11.....*

The sign was to give Ahaz solid grounds....for having Faith in God....

Yet Ahaz didn't want that faith...solid ground....He didn't want to trust God....

SO he didn't want God's sign

In fact.....**He ignored God completely**.....Went to Assyria for help.....

Received some temporary relief.....only to get into a much worst position....
And 2 chron 28:22 says.....

But despite the fact that he did not want a sign.....God gave him one any how
Isaiah 7: 14 says.....

This prophecy referred thento a young lady who both knew.....
And she went on and had a son.....And by the time he had reached some
understanding.....**Enemies were gone**.....destroyed.

But the full fulfillment of this sign.....did not occur.....until 700yrs later
When Jesus was born
For in Him alone... as Matt 1:23is the meaning of the name Immanuel perfected
FOR Jesus is God with Us

And His birth.....His life.....death and resurrection
Still stands as a sign from Godfor people suffering from sin in their lives...evrybody

JESUS.... is here with us.....and He has the answer for our deepest needs

Ahaz didn't want God's help.....He didn't want to be accountable to God
He felt he could keep his sinful way of living.....Organize his own help.....
And survive without God.....**He was so wrong**

Many people think the same today about Jesus
They don't want to be accountable to God.....To worship Him.....Put Him first
And like Ahaz they don't think they need Him...**So on the whole they ignore**

But when death comes.....or when life becomes too much.....**They will discover
To be without Jesus.....is to be without hope !!!!!**

(ON March 28th 1945.....come out....)He who resides in heaven, co-equal and co-
eternal with the Father, willingly descended into our world. He became one of us! He
breathed our air, felt our pain knew our sorrows, died for our sins. He was Immanuel
God with us so that we might be with Him for an eternity.

