

Associates for Scriptural Knowledge • P.O. Box 25000, Portland, OR 97298-0990, USA

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Webpage on the Internet: <http://www.askelm.com> • E-Mail address: askoffice@askelm.com

Dear Associates and Friends,

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The article this month is “[Israel and Judah: 33. Isaiah and the Death of Ahaz.](#)” I detail some of Isaiah’s prophecies as they relate to the reign of Ahaz, king of Judah. One prophecy relevant to the story of Ahaz is the very important Immanuel Prophecy. Then the narratives of Second Kings and Second Chronicles are told with reference to the sinfulness of Judah’s leaders, priests, and the people. The several prophets were the means YHWH used to communicate with His covenant people of Judah regarding their obligations, rewards for obedience, and punishments for sinful disobedience.

All this is another step toward providing a foundation of biblical history so the prophecies of Christ’s day and before Christ returns can be properly understood. The former things teaching us about future events.

Cast of Characters (Not in Order of Appearance):

This episode of “Israel and Judah” has a smaller cast of people, but it also includes topics.

Ahaz. Son of Jotham, king of Judah, one of the most evil kings of Judah. Nonetheless, he is a descendant of King David, so YHWH honors His promises regarding the line of Davidic kings. Judah’s increasing sins, led by Ahaz, provoke God’s wrath, and He is increasingly angry toward His people.

The People of Judah. Increasingly sinful, they listen to the prophets and then continue to disobey.

Rezin. King of Syria during the reign of Jotham and Ahaz, Rezin tried to form a coalition of kingdoms including Israel and Judah to oppose the Assyrian King Tiglath-pileser. Judah refused. Then Syria and Israel combined to attack and overwhelm Judah during the reign of Ahaz.

Isaiah, Hosea, Micah. Three prophets of God whose writings relate during the reign of Ahaz. The focus is mostly on Isaiah’s Immanuel Prophecy.

Tiglath-pileser (in the background). King of Assyria during this period, he is the ultimate “bad guy” who is building an empire. He invaded Israel and conducted the first Assyrian deportation of the people of Naphtali (2 Kings 15:29). Other deportations will come by later Assyrian kings.

The Prophets Isaiah and Micah

Isaiah and Micah were contemporaries (and contemporaries with Hosea and perhaps Jonah as well). We know a great amount about Isaiah, the first of the major prophets, but not too much about Micah, the 6th in order of the Minor Prophets. Below are two early identical passages from Isaiah and Micah side by side. The prophecy tells of “**the latter days,**” usually thought to be the period just before and then after Christ returns.

The translation is from the Concordant Literal Version. Remember, “... **at the mouth of two witnesses, or of three, every declaration may be made to stand**” (Matthew 18:16). The context was Jesus teaching His apostles on properly reproving those who sin. This is in line with the legal contexts in Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15; 1 Timothy 5:19; and Hebrews 10:28. All prophecies are legal pronouncements by God (not merely predictions) establishing His credentials and legal authority over His creation.

This prophecy was given to Isaiah and Micah probably during the same period of the crisis at Jerusalem under the reign of King Ahaz. Most of it applies to after Christ’s return, but some of it will be previewed before His return, and fulfilled completely after He returns. Read “[The Location and Future Discovery of](#)

[King David's Tomb](#)” to find out why that might be so.

Isaiah 2:2–5	Micah 4:1–5
<p>¹ “The word which came from Yahweh to Isaiah son of Amoz, <u>concerning Judah and Jerusalem</u>:</p> <p>² And it will come to pass <u>in the latter days</u>, The Mount of the House of Yahweh shall be established on the summit of the mountains, And it shall be lifted up above the hills, And all the nations will stream unto it.</p> <p>³ Many peoples will come and say:</p> <p>‘Come, and let us ascend to the Mount of Yahweh, To the house of the Elohim of Jacob; And He shall direct us out of His ways, So that we may indeed walk in His paths. For <u>from</u> [out of] <u>Zion shall go forth the law</u>, And <u>the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem</u>.’</p> <p>⁴ He will judge between the <u>nations</u> And arbitrate for the many <u>peoples</u>. They will pound their swords into mattocks [plows], And their spears into pruners; Nation shall not lift sword against nation, Nor shall they learn war any more.</p> <p>⁵ House of Jacob, come, And let us <u>walk in the light of Yahweh</u>.</p>	<p>¹ And it will come to pass <u>in the latter days</u>, The Mount of the House of Yahweh shall be established on the summit of the mountains, And it shall be lifted up above the hills. And all the peoples will stream unto it.</p> <p>² Many nations will come and say:</p> <p>‘Come, and let us ascend to the Mount of Yahweh, <i>And</i> to the house of the Elohim of Jacob, And He shall direct us out of His ways, So that we may indeed walk in His paths. For <u>from</u> [out of] <u>Zion shall go forth the law</u>, And <u>the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem</u>.’</p> <p>³ He will judge between <i>many peoples</i>, And arbitrate for <i>staunch nations afar off</i>. They will pound their swords into mattocks [plows], And their spears into pruners; Nation shall not lift <i>the sword</i> against nation, Nor shall they learn war any more.</p> <p>⁴ Each man will sit under his vine and under his fig tree, And there will be nothing causing them to tremble. For the mouth of Yahweh of hosts has spoken.</p> <p>⁵ Though all the peoples, they shall walk, each man in the name of his elohim, Yet we shall <u>walk in the <i>Name</i> of Yahweh</u> our Elohim, for the eon and further.</p>

Thank You

We believe Scripture and we think you do also. Dr. Martin certainly did. He did not have answers to all questions and neither do we today, but progress is being made to make the words of Scripture understandable and clear. God has truly blessed us all with wonderful knowledge of His divine plan for the redemption of the human race to Himself. We all have a great future. Let us all be about our Father’s business to give the Gospel of Christ to the world as best we can. Thank you for your help and contributions in support of ASK. In the meantime, get ready for increasingly interesting times. May God and Christ Jesus bless and be with you all.

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David W. Sielaff
david@askelm.com