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The Sign of Immanuel

7: 1-25



These verses speak of the difference between **God's** long-term view and our short-term view of our lives. The short-term view will always plunge us into fear and instability, just as it did **Ahaz**. **The king** could only see the immediate danger and therefore thought that **he** would find a way out by entrusting **himself** to what was a much greater danger - **Assyria**. If **he** had taken the time to listen to **ADONAI's** perspective on the matter, **he** would have known that the extreme measures **he** thought **he** had to take were in fact unnecessary. Because **he** refused to trust **the LORD** and look at the situation from **God's** perspective as **Isaiah** urged **him** to do, **he** was ruled by fear and made a tragic decision. Decisions made out of fear will almost always be disastrous ones. Decisions that grow out of the calmness borne of trust, however, can be thoughtful and reasoned.²⁴ **Isaiah** prophesied about a **child** to be **born** who, in some way, would relate to **the nation's** deliverance. The birth of **the baby**, to be named **Immanuel**, would have great significance for the line of David.