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The Distress of Ariel

28:1 to 29:24



In this section **Isaiah** continues **his** discussion, begun in **Chapter 7**, of the foolishness of trusting in other nations instead of **the LORD**. Here **he** deals with the specific political situation in **Judah**, rather than with the worldwide picture. The same approach was seen in **Chapters 13 to 27** where specific situations were addressed (**Chapters 13 to 23**) before a general truth was revealed (**Chapters 24 to 27**). There the purpose was to show **God's** lordship over the nations. The timeline is after the events in **Chapters 7 to 12**. Here the focus is on **Judah's** decision to trust, or not trust **ADONAI**. Now the threat, which **Isaiah** had predicted at that time, has come to pass. Assyria, with which Ahaz had allied himself, is finishing up with Samaria (**28:1-13**) and then turning its unwanted attentions on **Judah (29:14-29)**. The flood, which **Isaiah** had predicted earlier (**8:6-8**), is about to burst with full force against **the southern kingdom of Judah**.

The entire account of the distress of **Ariel**, or **Tziyon**, follows a parallel structure where the first letter is parallel to the second letter, and so on, with **C** being the turning point.

A Warning to Judah Through Ephraim (28:1-13)

B Far Eschatological Covenant with the Antichrist (28:14-29)

C Near Historical Covenant with Egypt (29:1-8)

C Near Historical Covenant with Egypt (29:9-16)

B Far Eschatological Covenant with the Antichrist (29:17-24)

A Warning to Judah Through Egypt (30:1 to 31:9)