

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup> 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 then** ....to 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 1:23 .....is 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 God .....for 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

