

## Isaiah Chapter 7/2 Nephi 17

Isaiah's Words, [Old Testament/Book of Mormon Manual](#), [Micah's Additions](#)

1 And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin, king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it.

In this verse we learn that the King of Syria and the king of Ephraim went to war against Jerusalem and could not prevail against it. Ahaz= Jerusalem, Rezin = Syria, Pekah=Ephraim. This chapter can be very confusing because with Isaiah's dualism things become mirror images and in most other chapters Isaiah takes only one dualism at a time (ie. Judah's Jerusalem vs Ephraim's New Jerusalem). This chapter however contains Ephraim, Judah, Jerusalem etc all in one. So the reading of it because a little like opposite day. If Jerusalem dualism is the New Jerusalem, Judah's dualism would be Ephraim, Ephraim's dualism would be Judah and Syria's dualism would be an antagonist of modern day Assyria. Once you identify the modern day Assyrian and modern day Assyria you will be able to identify modern day Syria.

2 And it was told the house of David, saying: Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.

The kingdom of Israel (Ephraim) in the north had formed an alliance with Syria for mutual strength and protection against the conquering empire of Assyria. When Judah refused to join the alliance, they threatened to subjugate Judah and attacked their southern foe. (see 2 Kings 15:36–38; 16:1–6).

The phrase "heart was moved" shows that Ahaz and his people were afraid when they learned that Syria and Ephraim were allies.

So with dualism, what have we learned? Judah (old Israel) will ally with a modern day Syria because they are afraid of the modern day Assyria. They will then demand the allegiance of Ephraim (America, New Jerusalem). The alliance of Jerusalem with Syria will shock the American president and Americans that Jerusalem would ally with them. When America refuses to join, they then wage war against America. With dualism this does not have to be an actual bloody war, this could be an economic war. And do we learn anywhere else in the scriptures about something that sounds very similar to this or exactly like this in the last days? The answer is yes.

Revelation 13:

1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Let's take a look at these scriptures, what happens here? John sees a confederation of nations or a union of nations in which one of its key members (heads) goes down either by collapse to death or by simply leaving the union. John then sees this country come back into the union, or be resurrected in the union. Then he sees another kingdom who spake as a dragon who then allies itself with the union.

4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

This alliance between the dragon kingdom and the union causes America to wonder who can stand against this beast? The dualism in Isaiah chapter 17 almost lines up identically with the alliance with the beasts in Revelation 13.

3 Then said the Lord unto Isaiah: Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

Isaiah was directed to warn King Ahaz against seeking political alliances for Judah in order to defend his people. The king, the third of the kings of Judah that Isaiah was sent to counsel, eventually rejected the Lord's warning (see 2 Kings 16:7–20; see also Enrichment F.)

Who Was Shear-jashub? He was one of the sons of the prophet Isaiah who accompanied his father in visiting the king. His name was a prophetic one that meant "the remnant shall return" (Isaiah 7:3a; see also Notes and Commentary on Isaiah 8:18).

The conduit referred to in 2 Nephi 17:3 is an aqueduct. Ahaz may have been checking the city's water supply in case of a siege during war.

The fuller's field was a place where clothes were washed.

What do we learn in this verse through the lense of dualism? The prophet of God goes and visits the president of the United States and warns the president about forming an alliance with anybody, tells him that deliverance will be found in the return of the 10 tribes. This conversation takes place in the courts of the United States. Do we know or have we been taught of an event like this? Yes. Brigham Young said, "When our brethren the Quorum of the 12 shall be called to the courts of Washington to give an account of the position of the Latter Day Saints.. .the world will be in commotion and the Lord will have something to work upon. It will be after this when our Savior and others will make their appearance on the earth among the Latter Day Saints" (recorded in a letter from Amanda H. Wilcox, March 11 1904).

4 And say unto him: Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be faint-hearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah.

5 Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying:

6 Let us go up against Judah and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, yea, the son of Tabeal.

7 Thus saith the Lord God: It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass.

8 For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus, Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken that it be not a people.

9 And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe surely ye shall not be established.

Continuing with the dualism, the prophet and the leaders of the church's prophecy to the United States to not be afraid and to not make alliances with anybody- trust in the Lord instead and the deliverance of the country will come from the return of the 10 tribes. They then compare the alliance between Judah and the modern day Syria as that of two tails on a creature (ie. Serpent, dragon) which continues the comparison with Revelations 13. But he says that this dragon has merely "smoking firebrands" which were torches that had burned out. Meaning this alliance would have no lasting strength and thus no long term threat. They also warn the president that this alliance's goal is inserting a puppet president (from modern day Syria) into the United States, but the Lord won't allow this to happen because "there shall be no kings in this land." They finish their prophecy saying that both the heads of Syria and Israel will die shortly.

10 Moreover, the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying:

11 Ask thee a sign of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depths, or in the heights above.

12 But Ahaz said: I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord.

13 And he said: Hear ye now, O house of David; is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

14 Therefore, the Lord himself shall give you a sign—Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and shall bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

15 Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil and to choose the good.

16 For before the child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

17 The Lord shall bring upon thee, and upon thy people, and upon thy father's house, days that have not come from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah, the king of Assyria.

What happens here? Continuing with dualism in mind- the prophet and apostles will say to the president of the United States "ask the Lord for any sign in the heavens above or on the earth beneath and he will make it happen." But the president refuses, not because he is unwilling to tempt God but because he does not want the Lord interfering with his plans to make an alliance with other nations. The Lord reveals the sign(s) anyways. Joseph Smith explained this time period when he said, "there will signs in heavens above and on the earth beneath, the sun turned into darkness and the moon to blood, earthquakes in divers places, and seas heaving beyond their bounds; then will appear one grand sign of the Son of Man in heaven. But what will the world do? They will say it is a planet, a comet, etc. But the Son of man will come as the sign of the coming of the Son of Man, which will be as the light of the morning cometh out of the east"

(Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p, 286-287). Also at this time, the prophet tells the president of the United States that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will soon give birth to a child and that child's name will be "God is with us." This kingdom of God is known as the New Jerusalem and will be established by those of the Church of the Firstborn and Christ will be among them. The prophet then says that from the birth of that child, the child won't reach the age of accountability before the Battle of Armageddon and the Lord sets foot on the Mount of Olives. According to Judaic law, this age of accountability is 12-13 years old but according to God it is age 8 "that thou mayest know forever that children are not accountable before me until they are eight years old" (JST Genesis 17:11). This is why the valley in which the Battle of Armageddon takes place in is called the Valley of Decision, you cannot make this decision without being accountable. The prophet then says that the promised land of America will yet see the best days ahead.

18 And it shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall hiss for the fly that is in the uttermost part of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria.

19 And they shall come, and shall rest all of them in the desolate valleys, and in the holes of the rocks, and upon all thorns, and upon all bushes.

This is referring to after the 10 tribes have been called home and America is cleansed. New Jerusalem will expand and will inhabit the now desolate cities in the United States. This will be covered in Isaiah 54/3 Nephi 22.

20 In the same day shall the Lord shave with a razor that is hired, by them beyond the river, by the king of Assyria, the head, and the hair of the feet; and it shall also consume the beard.

21 And it shall come to pass in that day, a man shall nourish a young cow and two sheep;

22 And it shall come to pass, for the abundance of milk they shall give he shall eat butter; for butter and honey shall every one eat that is left in the land.

23 And it shall come to pass in that day, every place shall be, where there were a thousand vines at a thousand silverlings, which shall be for briers and thorns.

24 With arrows and with bows shall men come thither, because all the land shall become briers and thorns.

25 And all hills that shall be digged with the mattock, there shall not come thither the fear of briers and thorns; but it shall be for the sending forth of oxen, and the treading of lesser cattle.

Shaving the head and beard was customarily done to mourn a death in the family. The forcible shearing of a captive, however, insulted and identified the one in subjection.

Butter and honey may seem like luxury items, but the land was laid waste by the Assyrians (see 2 Nephi 17:23). Consequently, the survivors had to live off the land like nomadic Bedouins with no crops to eat. Butter and honey likely referred to the curdled yogurt that would come from goats or sheep and any wild honey that could be found.

While New Jerusalem is expanding in the western hemisphere, the Lord will be fighting their battles for them, putting their enemies to shame. Their land will also be cursed and they will not be able to produce food. This is the time period of the plagues and catastrophes that take place in that 8-13 years.