

Isaiah 7:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The promise that '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' provides specific timeline: within 2-3 years, both Rezin and Pekah would fall. This prophecy was fulfilled precisely—Damascus fell 732 BC (Rezin killed), and Pekah was assassinated 732 BC (2 Kings 15:30). Historical fulfillment vindicates prophetic word and establishes pattern for recognizing ultimate fulfillment in Christ.

Historical Context

Assyrian records corroborate the timeline: Tiglath-Pileser III conquered Damascus 732 BC and installed Hoshea as puppet king in Samaria after Pekah's assassination.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does precise fulfillment of short-term prophecy validate long-term messianic promises?
2. What does God's detailed knowledge of future events reveal about His sovereignty over history?

Interlinear Text

בְּרֵךְ	רְבָעֵךְ	מְאֹד	עֲבֹד	עֲרֹב	בְּרֵךְ	בְּרֵךְ	כִּי
H3588	H2962	shall know	For before the child	to refuse	the evil	and choose	
		H3045	H5288	H3988	H7451	H977	
מְפִנִּי	לְזִקְנֵי						
the good	forsaken	the land	the child	the land	that thou abhorrest	shall be	
H2896	H5800	H127	H834	H859	H6973	H6440	
מְלִכִּים:	שָׁנִים						
of both	her kings						
H8147	H4428						

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 8:4 (Kingdom): For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria.

Deuteronomy 1:39 (Evil): Moreover your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, and your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it.