

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

וּבַחֲרֵי	בְּכָע	מָאֹס	הֵנָּה עַר	יָדַע	בְּטָרָם	כִּי
H977	H7451	H3988	H5288	H3045	H2962	H3588
and choose	the evil	to refuse	For before the child	shall know		
מִפְּנֵי	לָךְ	אֶתְּהָ	אֲשֶׁר	הָאֲדָמָה	תִּעָזֹב	בְּטוֹב
H6440	H6973	H859	H834	H127	H5800	H2896
shall be	that thou abhorrest			the land	forsaken	the good
מִלְּכֵיהֶּם	שְׁנֵיהֶם					
H4428	H8147					
her kings	of both					

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.