

# Isaiah 7:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

## Analysis

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The conspiracy of Syria, Ephraim, and Remaliah's son (Pekah) 'taking evil counsel' against Judah emphasizes human plotting that cannot thwart divine purposes. The phrase 'taken evil counsel' indicates deliberate malice, yet verse 7 declares God's verdict: 'It shall not stand.' This demonstrates the Reformed conviction that human counsel without divine approval is vanity (Psalm 2:1-4), and that God's purposes always prevail over human scheming (Proverbs 19:21).

## Historical Context

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The anti-Assyrian coalition sought to install a puppet king ('son of Tabeal,' v. 6) to replace Ahaz. This political conspiracy threatened Davidic line and messianic promise.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does confidence in God's sovereign control over human conspiracies provide peace?

2. What modern 'evil counsel' against the church or kingdom will 'not stand'?

## Interlinear Text

אֶפְרַיִם בְּעֵל יְבָשָׁה אָכְלָה יְעַזְּבָה כָּוֹן יְמִינָה אֶל יְמִינָה כָּוֹן יְמִינָה

לְאָמָר: רַמְלִי הַזֶּה וְזֶה  
and the son of Remaliah against thee saying

## Additional Cross-References

**Psalms 2:2** (Parallel theme): The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,

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