

THE EPIC OF EDEN: ISAIAH

Session 5 Video Notes – The Life and Times of Isaiah the Prophet, Part II: The Assyrian Empire

1. Isaiah's World (time line on reverse)
 - a. The Divided Kingdom, 931-586 BC
 - b. The Neo-Assyrian Empire, 745-612 BC
2. The Neo-Assyrian Empire
 - a. An empire that "instituted a level of destruction that disallowed rebirth"
 - b. A reputation for brutality, economic oppression, and exile
 - c. "In the year that king Uzziah died" (Isaiah 6:1)
 - i. The rise of the empire under Tiglath-Pilester III, 745 BC
 - ii. Results in Israel's experience?
 1. Syro-Ephraimite Wars, 734-732 BC (Tiglath-Pileser III)
 2. Fall of the Northern Kingdom, 722 BC (Shalmaneser III)
 3. Hezekiah's crisis, 701 BC (Sennacherib)
3. Ahaz, the Faithless King
 - a. The Syro-Ephraimite Wars, 734-732 BC
 - i. Pekah (Israel) and Rezin (Aram-Damascus) conspire against Ahaz
 - ii. Whom will Ahaz trust?
 - b. Isaiah 7:30-16
 - i. Ahaz will not call for Isaiah, so Isaiah calls on him
 - ii. The sign: "A young woman is with child, and is bearing a son."
 1. "Virgin"
 2. "knows enough to refuse evil and choose good"
 3. Immanuel = *im + nu + 'el* = "God with us"
 - c. Matthew 1:18-25
 - i. A sign for the people of God under Ahaz "God is with us"
 - ii. Becomes a sign for the people of God under the Roman Empire ..."God is with us"
 - iii. Whom will the people of God choose to ensure their security?

Isaiah 7:9 *"If you will not believe, you will not stand at all..." (author's translation)*