



## Matthew 1

18 The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.



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<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."



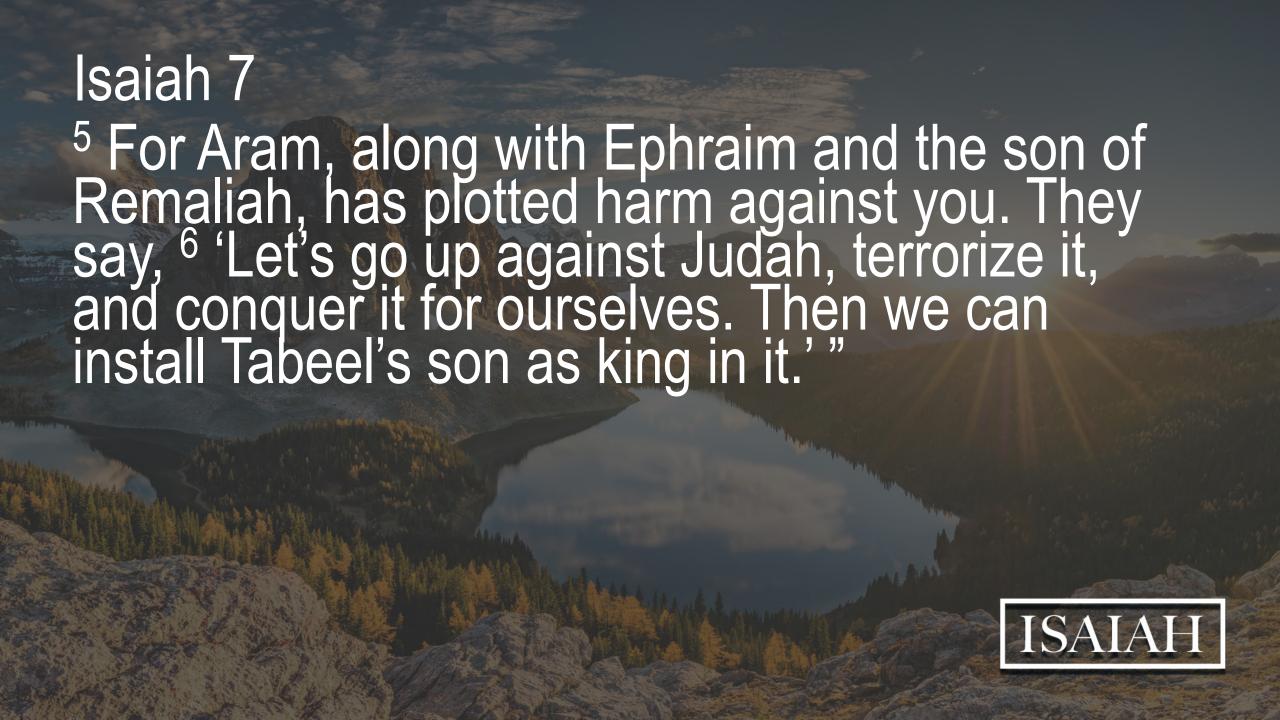
#### Matthew 1

Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel, which is translated "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord's angel had commanded him. He married her <sup>25</sup> but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus.

1 This took place during the reign of Ahaz, son of Jotham, son of Uzziah king of Judah: Aram's King Rezin and Israel's King Pekah son of Remaliah went to fight against Jerusalem, but they were not able to conquer it. <sup>2</sup> When it became known to the house of David that Aram had occupied Ephraim, the heart of Ahaz and the hearts of his people trembled like trees of a forest shaking in the wind. ISAIAH

<sup>3</sup> The Lord said to Isaiah, "Go out with your son Shear-jashub to meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the upper pool, by the road to the Launderer's Field. <sup>4</sup> Say to him: Calm down and be quiet. Don't be afraid or cowardly because of these two smoldering sticks, the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram, and the son of Remaliah.



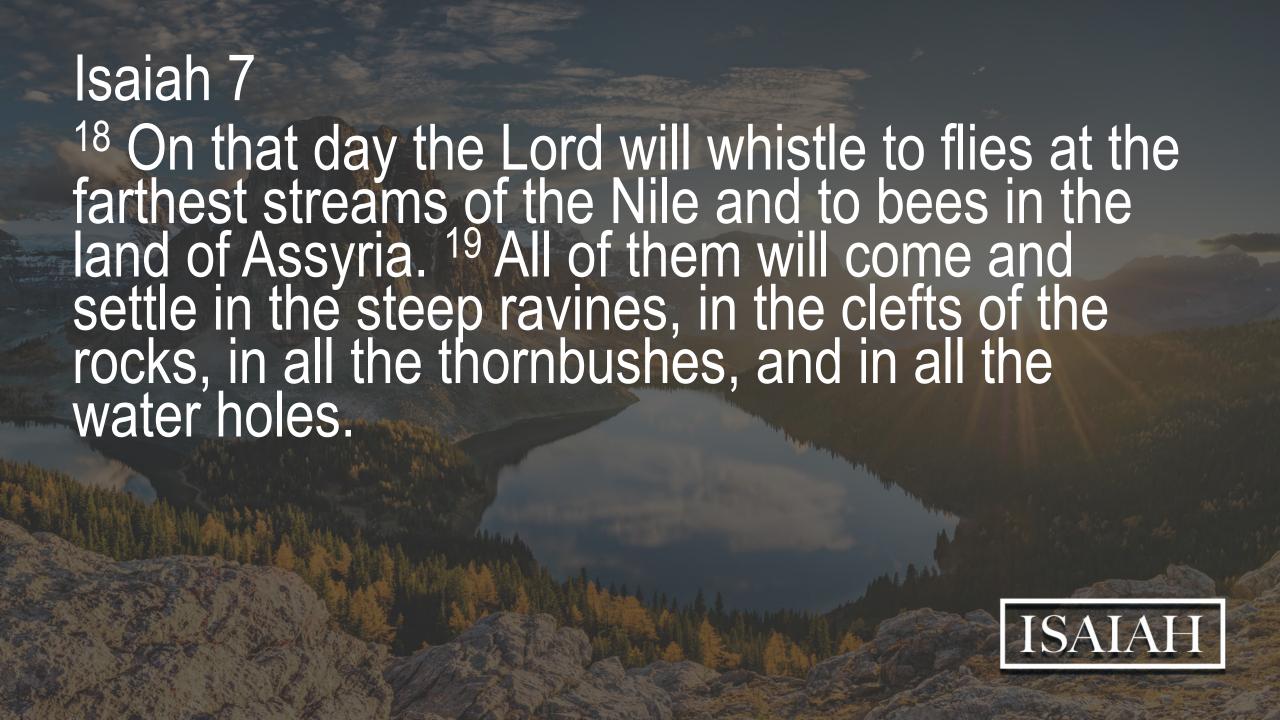


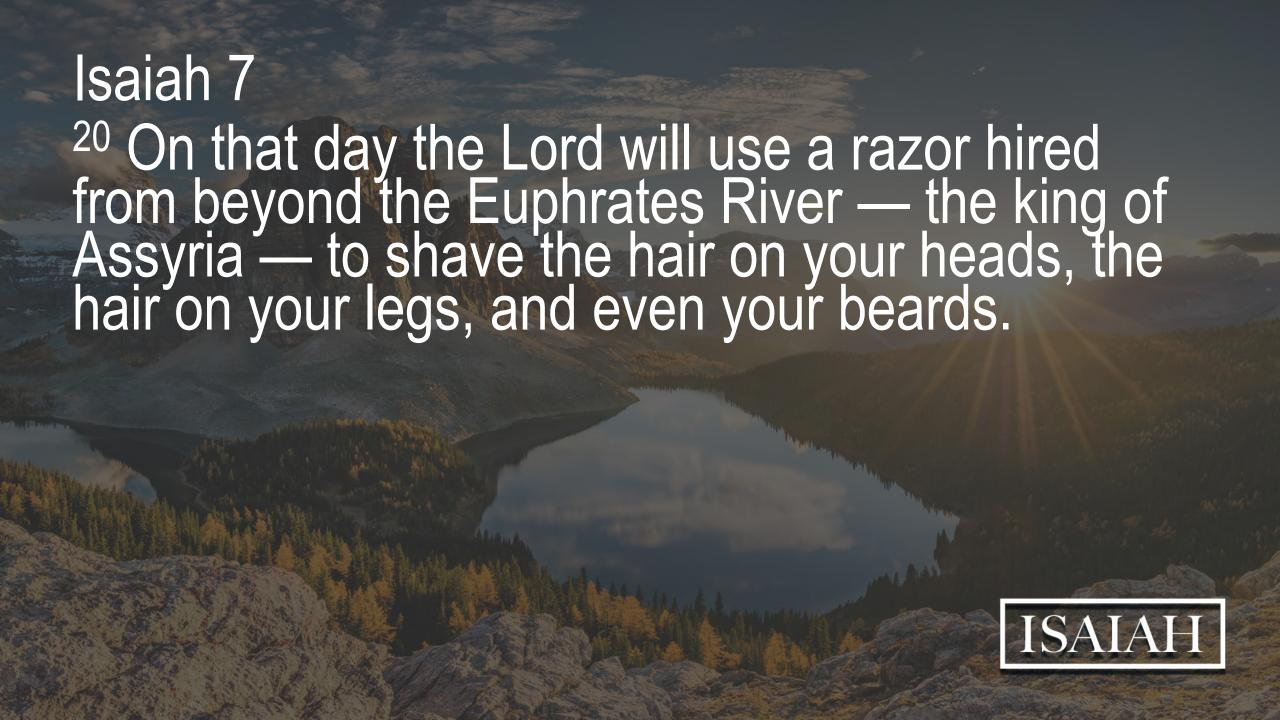
<sup>7</sup> This is what the Lord God says: It will not happen; it will not occur. <sup>8</sup> The chief city of Aram is Damascus, the chief of Damascus is Rezin (within sixty-five years Ephraim will be too shattered to be a people), <sup>9</sup> the chief city of Ephraim is Samaria, and the chief of Samaria is the son of Remaliah. If you do not stand firm in your faith, then you will not stand at all.



Then the Lord spoke again to Ahaz: 11 "Ask for a sign from the Lord your God — it can be as deep as Sheol or as high as heaven." 12 But Ahaz replied, "I will not ask. I will not test the Lord." 13 Isaiah said, "Listen, house of David! Is it not enough for you to try the patience of men? Will you also try the patience of my God? 14 Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: See, the virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel. ISAIAI

and choose what is good, he will be eating curds and honey. <sup>16</sup> For before the boy knows to reject what is bad and choose what is good, the land of the two kings you dread will be abandoned. <sup>17</sup> The Lord will bring on you, your people, and your father's house such a time as has never been since Ephraim separated from Judah: He will bring the king of Assyria."





On that day a man will raise a young cow and two sheep, <sup>22</sup> and from the abundant milk they give he will eat curds, for every survivor in the land will eat curds and honey. <sup>23</sup> And on that day every place where there were a thousand vines, worth a thousand pieces of silver, will become thorns and briers.



# Isaiah 7 <sup>24</sup> A man will go there with bow and arrows because the whole land will be thorns and briers. 25 You will not go to all the hills that were once tilled with a hoe, for fear of the thorns and briers. Those hills will be places for oxen to graze and for sheep to trample.



