

That is Sennacharib ready to conquer Jerusalem. "Or when a thirsty dreams and behold he drinks and he awakes and behold he ~~awakes and~~ <sup>is</sup> faint and his soul has appetite." A very vivid ~~picture~~ picture to me. I remember one time when I hadn't had any water for about two days ~~and~~ in a hot, thirsty land, and I dreamed of a beautiful stream flowing over my head and I just opened my mouth to let the cold water come in and nothing came and I woke up and found I was still in the desert with no water for another day or two. So it is a vivid picture which is given here in verse 8 of King Sennacharib just about ready to take Jerusalem and he wakes up and he faints; he can't do it because God in the night destroyed his army. So this prediction is given in the time of Ahaz of what is going to happen in the reign of his son. Ahaz is bringing Zion into terrific danger but God is going to protect it from that danger. In chapters 30 and 31 this is clearly stressed. In chapter 31 we find the prediction in verse 5, "as birds flying will the Lord of hosts defend Jerusalem." That ~~xxx~~ doesn't mean that the Lord is going to cause that a force of bombers is going to come and fly over Jerusalem and destroy Sennacharib's force. It is as ~~xxxx~~ birds hovering, like the birds ~~are~~ flying through the air, <sup>they</sup> the men of those days couldn't possibly reach so the Lord of hosts is going to be over Jerusalem like a bird hovering over its nest with His strength and His protection and Sennacharib is going ~~isx~~ to be driven away.

(Question) We'll go a little more into detail about this next year in the Prophets Course. But what I'm mainly interested in now is the background of the picture.

So we have these ~~two~~ predictions given of how though Isaiah brings the terrific Assyrian danger it is not now the time when God is going to allow the nation to be conquered. God is going to deliver it. We found out earlier, too, in Isaiah 10, "Therefore it shall come to pass," verse 12 tells us that "when the Lord has performed his whole work on Mount Zion and Jerusalem, I will punish <sup>the fruit of</sup>