

surrender because he is going to conquer the city anyway. Verse 30 gives a sign, "and this shall be the sign unto you. Ye shall eat this year such as groweth of itself." What does that mean? That means that the people that are in Jerusalem they do not dare to go out to their fields and the country places round about for fear of the roving bands of the Assyrian army. They can rush out and grab some fodder and bring it in but they cannot go out and stay long enough to plow and to hoe and to cultivate and to kill. You shall eat this year only what grows of itself. You cannot cultivate. All you can do is rush out and grab what grows up of itself and bring it in constantly watching lest the Assyrian bands draw near.

The second year that which "springeth of the same." A second year you will not be able to do any planting and carrying on ~~extra~~ ordinary agriculture. All you can do is to rush out in between the attacking by bands of the Assyrians and gather up what you can hurriedly. No time for planting and growing and cultivating. In th

"In the third year go ye and reap and plant vineyards and eat the fruit thereof." The third year you are going to be delivered from Sennacherib's attacks and you will be able to go out and sow and reap and plant vineyards. Therefore Isaiah's prediction specifically says that as the *end of 99,*

human natural cause. You are told just when it is going to happen. It is between two or three years yet from when he makes the prediction. So Isaiah shows clearly that there is a space of time which passes between God's promise of deliverance and the actual deliverance.

Then you read further in verse 33, "Thus saith the Lord concerning the king of Assyria, he shall not come into the city or shoot an arrow there nor come before it with shields nor cast embankment against it." In other words he is down in the plains of Lachish, he sends these wandering bands up, and he sends his messengers up to say that you had better surrender because I'm going to destroy you anyway, but he doesn't actually come to the point of bringing a large force up and putting