

II. The Destruction of Assyria.

We have already adverted to the prophecies which predict the downfall of Assyria and postponed their treatment will we should consider all the prophecies that were fulfilled before that defeat occurred. But the Assyrian prophecies introduce no new element, and can be shortly treated, since the background has been investigated.

The prophecies appear in several sections:

The Book of Immanuel (ch. 7-12) - - - - - 10:5-34
 The Burdens on the Nations (ch. 13-27) - - - - - 14:24-27
 The Book of Woes (ch. 28-35) - - - - - 33:1-24
 The Historical section (ch. 36-39) - - - - - 37:22-38.

The Book of Immanuel, and the Book of Woes. The sequence of prophecies in the Book of Woes is somewhat similar to that in the Book of Immanuel, and they may be treated together. In the first section we have prophesied: (1) the defeat of the Ephraim-Damascus coalition, 7:1-16, (2) the invasion of Assyria, 7: 17-8:8, (3) the Divine Child, 9:1-7, (4) repeated denunciation of Israel and Judah, 9:8-10:4, (5) eventual downfall of Assyria, 10:5-34, (6) the Messiah and His kingdom, and (7) the Doxology, chap. 12.

The denunciation against Assyria is rather plain. The situation is that the ruthless army from the East was invading, and all Judah trembled because of it. The references to Samaria in vs. 9, 10, and 11 can not be taken as proof that Samaria had fallen. It may refer to Tiglath-pileser's subjugation of Menahem in 738 B.C. At least the danger from Assyria was uppermost in the minds of all. The prophecy consists in this, that Assyria great and powerful aggressor that she was, was but an instrument of Him who