

the time of Ahaz, but we are dealing, not with the king, but with his nobles. We are dealing with the leaders of the people. We are dealing with those who are supposed to be the leaders of God's people on earth, those who are supposed to truly represent Him, carrying on His work and actually they are carrying out these clever human schemes of making their plans and working out their schemes with Assyria, these men who are working with King Ahaz, and so George Adams Smith, who has many modernistic views and also many very sound views, coming as a transition figure, a man who for some years worked closely with Dwight L. Moody in the great campaign which he had in Scotland, the man who had been brought up in the most loyal of evangelical Scotch/Presbyterian background of teaching, but a man who came under the influence of the higher criticism and who adopted many of its tenets, in the commentaries of George Adams Smith you'll find that often he takes critical views which destroy all the value of the commentary for reading but in other places he has really got to the bottom of the meaning of the passage and brought out something that is tremendously helpful and I have found that this passage, Chapter 28, if you take Chapter 28 and read it and try to figure just what he is talking about you find that at first sight it seems to be just a combination of words, this chapter, isolated verses, perhaps sections about different things but when you get to it, what on earth are you talking about in the chapter? Well, you recognize the fact that the chapter is dealing with this historic situation when an alliance has been made secretly on the part of Ahaz and his nobles, with the king of Assyria in order to protect them from Israel and Syria, you have a big step toward the truth of the chapter. Well, as you read the chapter, even then you don't have a full understanding of it and George Adams Smith suggests, and I think rightly, that there is the further clue which can be gained from the study of the chapter and which if you have it in mind as you approach the chapter, you find that everything fits right into place. In Chapter 7, I don't know as Adams Smith pointed out the parallel to 7 very much but the parallel is very marked. In Chapter 7, Ahaz goes out to examine the fortifications of the city in preparation for holding the others off