

They are told that this alliance, this confederacy, this plan is not going to work. It is just going to do away with the puffer states and they will be worse off than they were before. So the alliance with Assyria is a theme in this section as it is later in 28-35.

A new theme in this section, is devastation by Assyria This is in 7:17-25. Some people say that vs. 14 in ch. 7 has got to be an encouragement to Ahaz, that Immanuel is coming. God is not interested in encouraging wicked Ahaz. There is no thought in encouraging Ahaz. God wants to encourage the godly among the people by telling them that within a very brief time the land thou abhorrest will be forsaken of both her kings. But as far as Ahaz is concerned it simply is rebuke. Vs. 17, The Lord will bring upon days that have not come ^{from} ~~forth~~/the.....even the king of Assyria." He(Ahaz) says, How does he know about Assyria? God is revealing! And it shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall hiss for the fly in the uttermost part in the R. of Egypt and for the bee in the land of Assyria --- all these are going to come and attack against the land here, and they are going to be such a depopulation that we find in vs. 21,22 - 25 -- such a depopulation of the land is coming because of the way the Assyrians are not going to stop with taking Syrian and Israel, they are going to flood across into Judah. And there will be such a depopulation that it will come to pass in that day that a man should nourish a young cow and ~~two~~/two sheep, and it shall come to pass for the abundance of milk they will give he will eat butter, for butter and honey shall everyone eat that is left in the land. There won't be many people left. There won't be enough to till the ground. =vs. 25 And all the hills that are usually digged with a mattoch, you can't come in there because of fear of briars and thornes. All you can do is to send cows and sheep in there for pasture. There are not enough people left to take care of the land, and for the few people who are left there is plenty of butter and honey and those things that don't require a lot of people to work and to cultivate. So that shows the grt depopulation of the land. That depopulation is suggested earlier in the ch. where we find in vs. 15-16, Therefore the Lord . . sign, Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel, but