

A very clever picturesque way of saying that this plan simply cannot work. It is a human device that will not accomplish the purpose.

The rest of the ch. is rather picturesque lang. showing how God deals with different people according to His plan and == giving like an agriculturalist does the sort of treatment that will bring the desired result in each case. We'd better not take the time to look at the details of it. Just reading it at first sight you don't see it, but once you get that understanding, that's what it is. It's easy to figure out the meaning of the details in the rest of this chapter.

I want to go on to ch. 29 which continues on right directly after this. Ch. 29 shows what is going to happen as a result of this alliance with T.P. What is going to happen is that the Assyrian is going to reduce Jerusalem to the condition as we notice before, the condition when Sennacherib comes 30 yrs. later when there is just no human possibility of deliverance. All the rest of Judah will be taken. Lachish will be conquered; Jerus. is left alone. So he is very picturesque. "Woe to Ariel, to Ariel, the city where David . . ." Now Ariel is not a name that conveys any meaning. The Heb. could be translated either as the lion of God or as the heart of God. In line with the context the heart of God seems more likely. The place where God is working out with fire His plans and purposes. Where is this place? What does it refer to? It is the city where David dwelt. So it is very clear he is designating Jerusalem by it. 29:1 . . . add ye year to year; let them kill sacrifices. vs. 2- Yet I will distress Ariel vs. 3 . . . vs. 4 out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust." A picture of Jerus. with Sennacherib's army in Lachish ~~threatening~~ threatening to attack Jerus. at any time. There seems to be absolutely no hope, no possibility of deliverance. So this is a picture of what is going to come as a result of their ~~I~~ alliance with T.P. Jerusalem ~~itself~~ itself is going to be the only city left of any size, and it is in tremendous danger. This terrible situation that lasted for nearly 3 yrs. in the time of Hezekiah when Sennacherib's army came is vividly predicted in these 4 verses. But then, vs. 5 unfortunately where the Heb. just has