

Ahaz King of Judah – Rezin, king of Syria – Pekah, king of Israel

BC	2 Kings 15:37-16:20 (KJB)	2 Chronicles 28:1-27 (KJB)	Isaiah 7:1-8:18 (KJB)
	In Jotham's last days, Rezin king of Syria, and Pekah King of Israel attack Judah.		
743	<p>2 Kings 15:37 In (<i>Jotham's</i>) days the LORD began to send against Judah Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah.</p> <p>38 And Jotham slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and Ahaz his son reigned in his stead.</p>		
Ahaz the son of Jotham reigns over Judah – his Wicked Character			
743	<p>2 Ki. 16:1 In the seventeenth year of Pekah the son of Remaliah Ahaz the son of Jotham king of Judah began to reign.</p> <p>2 Twenty years old was Ahaz when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.</p> <p>3 But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel,</p> <p>yea, and made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.</p> <p>4 And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, & under every green tree.</p>	<p>28:1 Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem: but he did not that which was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father:</p> <p>2 For he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, and made also molten images for Baalim.</p> <p>3 Moreover he burnt incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire, after the abominations of the heathen whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.</p> <p>4 He sacrificed also and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, & under every green tree.</p>	
Rezin king of Syria, and Pekah King of Israel go up to attack Jerusalem			
742	<p>2 Ki. 16:5 Then Rezin king of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to war:</p>		<p>Isaiah 7:1a And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, (<i>to unseat Ahaz, the young 20-year-old newly crowned king</i>)</p>

BC	<p>Isaiah encourages Ahaz and the people to not fear Rezin and Pekah for God will deliver them. They are to trust God and not seek help from Assyria – He will use Assyria to defeat these two enemies</p>
742	<p>Isaiah 7:2 And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his (Ahaz's) heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind. 3 Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool (cp. Isa. 36:2; 2 Ki. 18:17) in the highway of the fuller's field; 4 And say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah. 5 Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying, 6 Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal: (<i>not a Hebrew name – possibly a Syrian noble</i>) 7 Thus saith the Lord GOD, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. 8 For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people. 9 And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.</p>
	<p>Isaiah is sent again to Ahaz with an offer from God to chose any sign as proof that He will deliver Judah</p>
742	<p>Isaiah 7:10 Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying, 11 Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. 12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD. 13 And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. 15 Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good. 16 For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings. 17 The LORD shall bring upon thee, and upon thy people, and upon thy father's house, days that have not come, from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah; even the king of Assyria. 18 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall hiss for the fly that is in the uttermost part of the rivers of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria. 19 And they shall come, and shall rest all of them in the desolate valleys, and in the holes of the rocks, and upon all thorns, and upon all bushes. 20 In the same day shall the Lord shave with a razor that is hired, namely, by them beyond the river, by the king of Assyria, the head, and the hair of the feet: and it shall also consume the beard. 21 And it shall come to pass in that day, that a man shall nourish a young cow, and two sheep; 22 And it shall come to pass, for the abundance of milk that they shall give he shall eat butter: for butter and honey shall every one eat that is left in the land. 23 And it shall come to pass in that day, that every place shall be, where there were a thousand vines at a thousand silverlings, it shall even be for briers and thorns. 24 With arrows and with bows shall men come thither; because all the land shall become briers and thorns. 25 And on all hills that shall be digged with the mattock, there shall not come thither the fear of briers and thorns: but it shall be for the sending forth of oxen, and for the treading of lesser cattle. Isaiah 8:1 Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning Mahershalalhashbaz. 2 And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Jeberechiah. 3 And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Mahershalalhashbaz. (<i>haste the spoil</i>) 4 For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria. 5 The LORD spake also unto me again, saying, 6 Forasmuch as this people refuseth the waters of Shiloah that go softly, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son; 7 Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong & many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks:</p>

	<p>2 Chron. 28:12 Then certain of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against them that came from the war,</p> <p>13 And said unto them, Ye shall not bring in the captives hither: for whereas we have offended against the LORD already, ye intend to add more to our sins and to our trespass: for our trespass is great, and there is fierce wrath against Israel.</p> <p>14 So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all the congregation.</p> <p>15 And the men which were expressed by name rose up, and took the captives, and with the spoil clothed all that were naked among them, and arrayed them, and shod them, and gave them to eat and to drink, and anointed them, and carried all the feeble of them upon asses, and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, to their brethren: then they returned to Samaria.</p>	
	<p>Emboldened by the success of Rezin and Pekah, Edom and Philistia also attack Judah. Rather than repent, Ahaz ignores Isaiah's warnings & sends to Tiglath-pileser King of Assyria for help. Tiglath saves him from these but carries some of Israel away to Assyria and makes Ahaz his vassal.</p>	
BC	2 Kings 16	2 Chronicles 28
741	<p>2 Ki. 16:7 So Ahaz sent messengers to Tiglathpileser king of Assyria,</p>	<p>2 Chron. 28:16 At that time did king Ahaz send unto the kings of Assyria to help him.</p> <p>17 For again the Edomites had come and smitten Judah, and carried away captives.</p> <p>18 The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the low country, and of the south of Judah, and had taken Bethshemesh, and Ajalon, and Gederoth, and Shocho with the villages thereof, and Timnah with the villages thereof, Gimzo also and the villages thereof: and they dwelt there.</p> <p>19 For the LORD brought Judah low because of Ahaz king of Israel; for he made Judah naked, and transgressed sore against the LORD.</p>
740	<p>saying, I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which rise up against me.</p> <p>8 And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent it for a present to the king of Assyria.</p> <p>9 And...the king of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to Kir, and slew Rezin. (<i>Rezin had returned from Elath to defend Syria when he heard of the approaching Assyrians. With Pekah still alive, at this time Tiglath took the half Tribe of Manasseh, Gad, Reuben, Zebulun, Dor, & "the way of the sea" into captivity. The other tribes were not taken to Assyria until 721, Hoshea's 9th year: see 2 Ki. 15:29; 1 Chr. 5:26; Isa. 9:1 – Hoshea assassinated Pekah in 739</i>)</p>	<p>20 And Tilgathpilneser king of Assyria came unto him, & distressed him, but strengthened him not. 21 For Ahaz took away a portion out of the house of the LORD, and out of the house of the king, and of the princes, and gave it unto the king of Assyria: but he helped him not.</p> <p>22 And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.</p> <p>23 For he sacrificed unto the gods of Damascus, which smote him: and he said, Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them, therefore will I sacrifice to them, that they may help me. But they were the ruin of him, and of all Israel. (in 739 BC)</p>
727	<p>2 Ki. 16:20 And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David:</p> <p>and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.</p>	<p>27 And Ahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city, even in Jerusalem: but they brought him not into the sepulchres of the kings of Israel: and Hezekiah his son reigned in his stead.</p>