

Comparison of Isaiah chs. 7 & 8 (Translation: KGF)

Giving of "Sign"	
<p>(Sign declared to Ahaz, by divine command) 7:10-11</p> <p>7:14a Therefore the Lord, he will give to you (pl) a sign: ←</p>	<p>(By divine command, a sign declared to Zechariah & Uriah the priest) 8:1-2 8:18 Behold, I and the children, which Yahweh gave to me (are) for signs and for wonders in/against Israel . . .</p>
Pregnancy, Birth, Naming	
<p>7:14b "Behold, the young woman is pregnant and birthing a son; and she will call his name Immanuel ("God is with us")</p>	<p>8:3 I approached the prophetess, and she became pregnant and she gave birth to a son . And Yahweh said to me: "Call his name Maḥer-shalal-hash-baz' (<i>"Speeding [to take] spoil; hurrying [to take] plunder"</i>)</p>
Son functions as Time Indicator for Aram & Israel's Defeat	
<p>7:15 Curds and honey, he will eat until his knowing to refuse evil and to choose good. 7:16 For before the boy knows to refuse evil and to choose good, the ground will be forsaken which you dread on account of its two kings.</p>	<p>8:4 For before the boy knows to cry out 'My father' and 'My mother' the wealth of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria will be carried away before the King of Assyria.</p>

Judgment coming by Assyria (two different metaphors, but both express the same sweeping destruction)	
<p>7:17 Yahweh will bring on you . . . days which have not come since that day Ephraim turned-away from Judah . . . —(that is) the King of Assyria</p> <p>7:18 And it will come about in that day, Yahweh will whistle for the fly which is in . . . Egypt, and for the bee which is in . . . Assyria.</p> <p>7:19 And all of them will come and will settle on the steep ravines, and on the ledges of the cliffs, and on all the thorn bushes, and on all the watering places.</p> <p>7:20 In that day the Lord will shave with a razor — the one hired from regions beyond the (Euphrates) River, (that is) the king of Assyria — the head and the hair of the legs, and also the beard, it will remove."</p>	<p>8:5 And again Yahweh spoke to me further, saying: 8:6 "Because this people has refused the gently flowing waters of Shiloah . . . 8:7 And therefore, behold the Lord is causing to rise up on them the strong and abundant waters of the (Euphrates) River —(that is) the king of Assyria and all his glory. And it will rise up over all its channels; and it will go over all its banks; 8:8 and it will sweep into Judah; it will overflow and it pass through; up to the neck, it will reach. And the spreading of its wings will fill the breadth of your land. 7:14 ← O Immanuel ["God is with us"].</p>

Failure of Plans against Judah

7:5 Because Aram **has planned** evil against you,
 (along with) Ephraim . . . saying,
 7:6 "Let us go up against Judah;
 and let us terrorize it;
 and let us make for ourselves a breach,
 and let us appoint a king in its midst . . ."

7:7 Thus says the Lord Yahweh,
 "It shall not stand,
 and it shall not be."

8:9 Break-forth, O peoples,
 and be dismayed;
 and give ear, all remote places of the earth.
 Gird yourselves,
 and be dismayed;
 gird yourselves,
 and be dismayed.

8:10 **Plan a plan**,
 and it will be thwarted
 State a statement,
 and it shall not stand,
 for God is with us (Immanuel)."

7:14

Issue of Who to "Fear"

(although different terms are used)

7:2 And it was told the house of David, saying:
 "Aram has encamped (together) with Ephraim."
 And his **heart shook**,
 and the **heart of the people**
was like the shaking of the trees of the forest
 before a wind.

7:16b . . . the ground will be forsaken
 which you **dread** on account of its two kings.

8:11 For thus said Yahweh to me,
 for strong was (his) hand,
 and he admonished me
 from walking in the way of this people,
 saying:

8:12 "You (pl) shall not say: 'Conspiracy'
 all that which this people say: 'Conspiracy'.
 and what **it fears, you (pl) shall not fear**,
 and you shall not treat-with-awe.

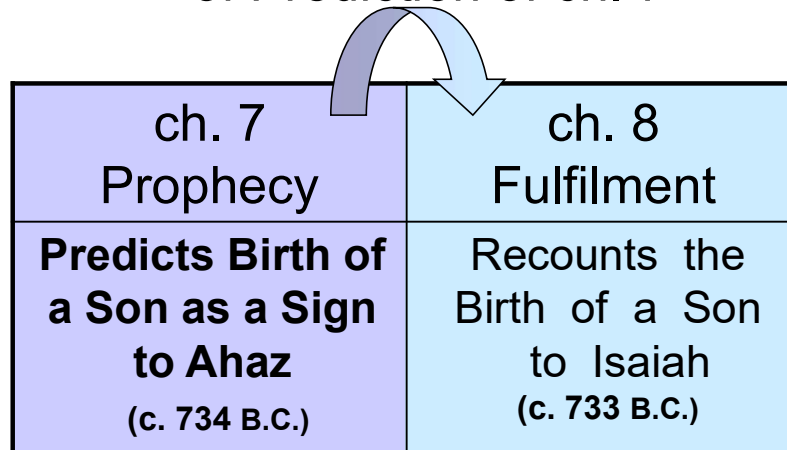
8:13 Yahweh (the Lord of) Hosts,
 him you (pl) shall regard-as-holy,
 and **he is your fear**,
 and he is your awe-inspirer."

Inter-relatedness between ch. 7 & ch. 8:

1) Ch. 8 is a “Re-enforcing” / Re-duplication of Prophecy of ch. 7

* Purpose: Give repeated Emphasis

2) Ch. 8 is the Immediate Fulfilment of Prediction of ch. 7



Objections to ch. 8 being Immediate Fulfilment

ch. 7	ch. 8	
v. 14 – Hebrew term: “young woman” / “virgin” > implies an unmarried woman	v. 3 – “the prophetess” > presumably, Isaiah’s wife	> ambiguity of term might allow for a young married woman > was a recently married wife, who had not previously born a child
v. 14 –child’s name: “Immanuel” (“God with us”) > Positive emphasis	v. 3 –child’s name: “Maher-shalal-hash-baz” (“Speeding [to take] spoil; hurrying [to take] plunder”) > Negative emphasis	> dual names are not uncommon --e.g., Genesis 35:18, Benjamin (“Son of my Right Hand”) [positive] Ben-Oni (“Son of my sorrow”) [negative] > 2 names emphasize the dual aspect of the sign. both: “good” news + “bad” news”
vv. 15-16 – Time element: “before he knows to refuse evil and to choose good” > if understood in moral sense = age of ~ 12-13	v. 4 – Time Element: “before he knows to cry out, “My father” and “My mother” > = ~ 2 yrs old	> 8:4 explains age of 7:15-16, which does not mean age of moral discernment,, but ability to make choices > reference 2 different historical events related to the fulfilment (original prophecy, c 734 B.C.) * ch. 7 –fall of the N. Kingdom, Israel in 721 B.C. * ch. 8 – fall of Damascus (Aram) in 733 B.C.