

Lesson #2 Judah's Political Entanglements - Isaiah 7:1–25; 9:1–11:16

DRAWING NEAR

1. How do you typically handle telling someone bad news?

UNLEASHING THE TEXT

1. What is the predominant theme of Isaiah's prophecies in these chapters?
2. Looking at Isaiah 7, what can you learn from about the life and ministry of the Messiah?
3. Which elements of Isaiah 9:1–7 has Jesus already fulfilled? Which promises are still to come?
4. Why is it significant that the Messiah would come "from the stem of Jesse," the father of King David (see Matthew 1:1–17)?

REFLECTING ON THE TEXT

1. How should Ahaz have responded when God offered to give him a sign?
Why was his response both disobedient and hypocritical?
2. What helps you to have confidence that God will fulfill His promises in the Bible?
3. What is the danger of looking for God to fulfill His promises according to your own priorities?
4. How do God's promises for the future bring you comfort today?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1. What is the danger of false piety?
How do you combat the hypocritical desire to be seen as "pious" or "spiritual" by others?
2. What steps can you take this week to reject the allure of this world and its temporary pleasure and fix your heart on the future God has prepared for you?