

# The Echo of A Sign

# A message

And he said, YHWH, to me, “Take to yourself a great tablet of papyrus

And write upon it with the stylus of a man:

MAHER SHALAL CHASH BAZ

Hasten plunder hurry spoil

(piel imperative)

(3<sup>rd</sup> masc singular perfect)

hasty

quick

(piel infinitive as adjective)

(masc singular participle)

# Which One?

- Hasten *to the* plunder, hurry *to the* spoil
- Hasty *is the* plunder, swift *is the* spoil
- The first is imperative, the second is descriptive.
- Which is appropriate to the context?

Hold that thought.



# Two Witnesses

“And I will call for me faithful witnesses:

“Uriyyah, the priest, and Zakaryahu, son of Yeberekyahu.”

- Why does the LORD need witnesses?
- What are they witnessing?
- Why couldn't everyone witness it?

# The Second Son

SO I approached the prophetess  
And she conceived (harah)

And then she gave birth (yalad) to a son.

And he said, YHWH, to me, “Call his name MAHER  
SHALAL HASH BAZ,

For before he will know, the boy, to call ‘my father’ and  
‘my mother’

They will carry the wealth of Damascus and the plunder  
of Samaria before the king of Assyria.”



# What's Going On

- The boy's name matches the prophetic writing.
- The prophetic writing has something to do with speed and plunder.
- The witnesses were there because the writing was done in secret.
- At least 9 months after the tablet event, Isaiah's wife had a son given the same prophetic name.
- Can you see that Isaiah's ministry and message are being validated by the Lord?

# What's in a name

- The boy's name is *descriptive* of the event of Assyria despoiling Damascus and Samaria.
- The HASTE and SPEED describe the booty of these two countries *leaving* “before the king of Assyria”
- The speed is not that they will escape their captors but that they are “liberated” quickly *by* their captors.
- Swift **is** the plunder, speedy **is** the spoil.



# Observations on God's Dealings with Judah

1. God superintends the entire process of the Assyrian invasion.
  - a) The prophecy of destruction stated on the tablet
  - b) The naming of the boy ~9 months later
  - c) The fulfillment of the prophecy a year after that
2. Most of the people at the time would observe the coming of Assyria and see nothing particularly theological going on.
3. Yet Isaiah and the witnesses have a uniform record of this event being within God's plan and purpose.
4. And the fact of Assyria's victory over Damascus and Samaria verifies that Isaiah is indeed a true prophet of YHWH.



# What if You were Isaiah?

18 Behold, I and the children whom the Lord has given me are for signs and wonders in Israel from the Lord of hosts, who dwells on Mount Zion.

- Do you see your responsibilities in life as blessing from the Lord?
- Do you view your blessings as opportunities to respond to the Lord?



# The Principle

God uses people to communicate His program for the ages. He always has, and He still continues to do so today.

As God's representatives, the use of our resources and the execution of our responsibilities are always saying something about Him.



# The Application

- Make a list of your blessings and a list of your responsibilities in life.
- Evaluate how you think about them and use them.
- Determine how you **SHOULD** think about them and use them.
- Repeat as necessary