

War between Israel, Judah, & Syria

(2 Kings 15:37; 16:1-20; 2 Chron. 28:1-27; Is. 7 & 9:1-2)

Do you remember that in the days of Menahem, that Tiglath-pileser III, King of Assyria, came and forced Menahem to pay him money? Now in the days of Pekah, Tiglath-pileser came back and took the people that lived on the east side of the Jordan River captive. Do you remember that God sent His prophets to warn that this would happen if the people did not obey? Tiglath-pileser took the people captive because they continued to worship idols and would not obey God! All of these bad things were happening on the east side of the Jordan River in Israel, but Isaiah told of a day when Jesus would come and do great things there.

Good King Jotham died and his son Ahaz ruled in his place. Ahaz was the wickedest king that had ruled Judah so far. He worshipped Baal and offered his children as sacrifices!

When Pekah of Israel and Rezin of Syria teamed up against Ahaz of Judah, Ahaz worried. He met Isaiah outside the city of Jerusalem. Isaiah told Ahaz that God would defeat his enemies IF he would obey God! Ahaz would not trust in God, so Rezin and Pekah were able to overpower Ahaz and defeat him. They took cities and people from Judah. These men were able to defeat Ahaz because the people of Judah had "forsaken the Lord, the God of their fathers".

A prophet named Oded met Pekah as he was taking some captives of Judah back to Samaria. He told Pekah that God had let him defeat Judah because He was angry with them, **but** God was also angry with Pekah for not obeying Him! Oded told Pekah to send the people of Judah back home because God was **very** angry with him! Some of the leaders in Israel told those bringing the people of Judah to Samaria that they should not sin more and make God even angrier. The soldiers gave up their prisoners and the leaders of Israel took care of the people.

Edom and Philistia had also come and invaded Judah. Ahaz refused to turn to God! He asked Tiglath-pileser to help him defeat the kings of Syria and Israel. Ahaz paid Tiglath-pileser money and Tiglath-pileser defeated and killed Rezin of Syria. Ahaz was so happy with Tiglath-pileser that he went to Damascus to meet him. Ahaz thought that because the Syrians had defeated him he should sacrifice to their idols so they would help him. He asked a man in Jerusalem to make him

an idol of the Syrian gods so that he could worship the idols at home. He moved the new idols in front of God's temple. He kept God's altar so he could inquire of God also. Ahaz finally shut the doors to God's temple! How sad! When he died, he was not buried with the other kings.

Main Points:

1. When God says He will punish those who will not obey, He **will** punish them!
2. God will be on our side **IF** we obey Him.
3. Only God can help and save us.
4. We cannot serve God and idols.

Lesson 9 Questions: War with Syria, Israel, & Judah

1. Who took captives from the east side of the Jordan River?

Rezin

Tiglath-pileser

2. Even though bad things were happening here, who told about a day when good things would happen?

Isaiah

Jotham

3. What sacrifice did wicked King Ahaz make that was so evil?

His dog

His children

4. Who did Pekah and Rezin team up against?

Isaiah

Ahaz

5. Who told Ahaz that God would save him IF he would obey?

Isaiah

Oded

6. Was Ahaz defeated?

Yes

No

7. Who told Pekah to not bring prisoners from Judah to Samaria?

Isaiah

Oded

8. God was angry with Judah, but was He angry with Pekah also?

Yes

No

9. Who did Ahaz ask help from when Judah was being invaded?

God

Tiglath-pileser

10. When Ahaz went to see Tiglath-pileser in Damascus, what did he see that he wanted to have in Jerusalem?

Money

An idol

11. What did Ahaz finally do to the doors of God's temple?

Break them

Close them

12. Will God punish those who will not obey?

Yes

No

13. Will God be on our side **IF** we obey Him?

Yes

No

14. Who is the only One who can save us?

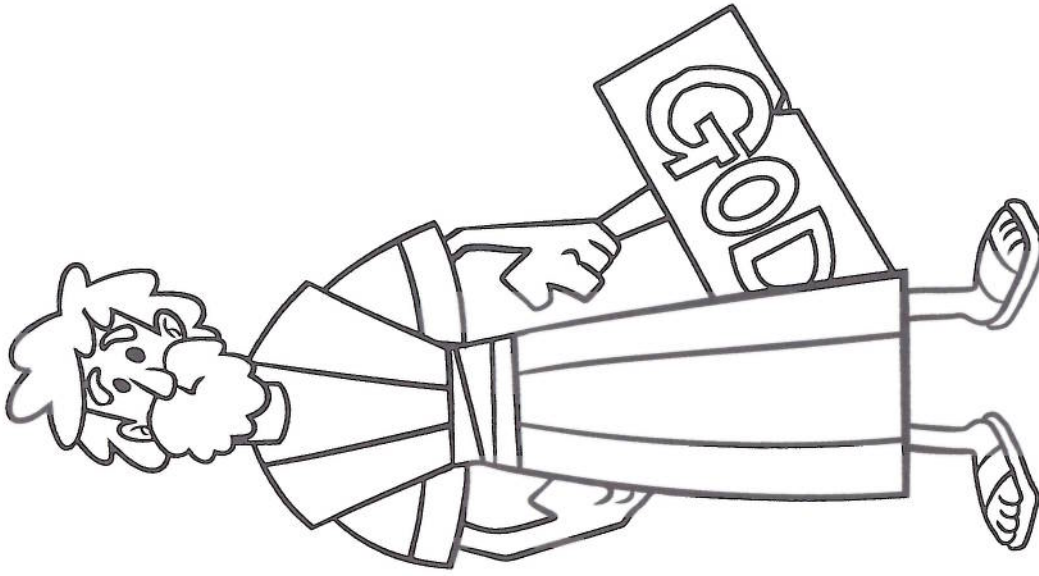
Idols

God

15. Can we serve God **AND** idols?

Yes

No



The prophet Isaiah told King Ahaz to look to God for help when Judah was in trouble, but King Ahaz would not listen. He looked to Assyria for help, but they invaded Judah instead! - **Isaiah 7**