

# MESSIANIC PROPHECY— ISAIAH PART ONE

## Isaiah 7:13-17

"Then he said, "Listen now, **O house of David!** Is it too slight a thing for you [pl] to try the patience of men, that you [pl] will try the patience of my God as well? <sup>14</sup> "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you [pl] a sign: Behold, a **[the]** virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> "He [Shear-Jashub] will eat curds and honey at the time He knows *enough* to refuse evil and choose good. <sup>16</sup> "For before the boy [Shear-Jashub] will know *enough* to refuse evil and choose good, the land whose two kings you [s] dread will be forsaken. <sup>17</sup> "The LORD will bring on you [s], on your people, and on your father's house such days as have never come since the day that Ephraim separated from Judah, the king of Assyria." (NASB)

- The Messiah would be born of a virgin (*almah* in Hebrew; translated as *parthenos* in LXX meaning *virgin* as in Matthew 1:18-23). This is a much debated issue related to whether this is a *virgin* or *young woman*. There are three options: 1) *Na'arah* is a word that is used for young virgin (1 Kings 1:2) or non-virgin (Ruth 2:6) and woman in general; 2) *Betulah* is used for widow (Joel 1:8) or woman in general (Zech 9:17) or young virgin (Gen 24:16); 3) *Almah* is used of a young virgin of marriageable age and appears only seven times in OT (Gen 24:43; Ex 2:8; Ps 68:25; Song of Songs 1:3; 6:8; Prov 30:18-19; **Isaiah 7:14**). Another debatable point is *when* the prophecy would be fulfilled. The grammar here is well known that when the word "Behold" (*hineh*) appears with a participle, it denotes a future event (Gesenius, *Hebrew Grammar*, 116.P). However, in the Hebrew Bible it usually refers to an event that is imminent and about ready to transpire. Yet Gesenius gives 3:1, 7:14, and 17:1 as examples from the book of Isaiah. What is interesting is that examining all these prophecies in Isaiah demonstrate the fulfillment of these prophecies as being many years later (3:1 is at least 100 years out to fulfillment; 17:1 most likely still has not been fulfilled; 7:14 was fulfilled around 700 years later).
- The Messiah will be a king (of the house of David)
- The Messiah must be born prior to 70 AD when the records of who was of "the house of David" were destroyed and would eliminate the possibly of verifying ancestry
- The Messiah would be the God-Man and named *Immanuel* which literally means, "God with us" (Isaiah 8:8, 10)