**NSBC Sermon Notes Hope for People in Crisis Isaiah 7 Nov 28, 202**

 **Peace in a world in crisis?**  **The Middle East 8thCentury BC.**

 **In the North**  **In the South**

 **735BC** Assyria a global superpower. Ahaz King of Judah attacked by

 Israel made a pact with Syria (Aram). Rezin (Syria) and Pekah (Israel).

 Bad news can shake us, like a forest Do we trust in the word of the Lord?

 **‘when it is shaken by the wind’ (7:2).** Do we rely on God’s true promises?

 **To our fears, God speaks peace**.

*‘How great is Your goodness which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You prepared for those who trust in You in the presence of the sons of men!’* **Psalm 31:19**

 **BUT**

 **‘If you do not stand firm in your**

 **faith, you will not stand at all’ (7:9).**

**‘Ask the Lord your God for a sign.’ (7:10-12) Is your faith vulnerable?**

 **Ahaz said, “I will not ask.”** Faith abandoned.

 Ahaz sent messengers to say to Tiglath-Pileser  **Is your trust variable?**

 king of Assyria: *‘****I am your servant and vassal.***

 ***Come up and save me.*’** Compromise complete.

 **2 Kings 16:1-12**

 **God gives a sign.** **The virginwill conceive and give birth**

 **to a son and will call him Immanuel.**

 **Isaiah’s son (8:1-4) Eternal Son (9:6)**

 **‘We are not alone in any sorrow, ambition, joy, defeat, success,**

**or even in our sin—for the Spirit of the Father shares our every**

**mood and need, comforting, helping, restraining and healing us.’**

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