

of the Word, we will draw a series of practical lessons. These we will attempt to apply to our world setting and the activities that face us. We will seek to carry the principles noted into the age of the New Testament and establish what they tell us (or show us) about our attitude towards what the Lord is now doing and will do for the church and the world. That is an ambitious proposition, believe it or not, but that is where we are headed at this time.

II. Analysis of our Leading Passage

Isaiah 7:1-25

A. Explanation: Why this chapter?

1. To begin with, this is a chapter justly made famous through the prediction of the coming of the Messiah. It is therefore well-known in its context and in its application of New Testament Scripture (to).

2. Second: the variety of predictive prophecy covers almost every possible type. There is immediate prophecy and remote prophecy (predictions)...there is blessing (predictive) and judgment....there is a message individual and a national or group pronouncement. There is also the interaction of persons who do wish to hear and who do not and the response of both is in view.

3. Third: the practical lessons are spelled out for us clearly...very little elaboration is needed although I may spend several hours on it. That is one of the ironies of preaching...what is very clear in the Word we prolong for about an hour in discussion.

4. Fourth: there is an adequate representation of prophetic problems so as to give us a good sounding board for all sorts of interpretation. In short, we have a passage which illustrates in capsule form the ideas, conclusions and movements of almost all the prophetic predictive passages. It is, from this point of view, an eminently qualified passage for a consideration that is aimed to the practical side.