

TREMBLE OR TRUST

Isaiah 7.1-17

Ahaz, the king of Judah, has a decision to make. Make an unholy alliance with one of God's enemies or stay put and trust God to work things out. The prophet Isaiah advised Ahaz that:

If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.

Isaiah 7.9

Our faith in God is important in guiding us through difficult times. What can we do to strengthen our faith to enable us to overcome those times when our faith is lacking?

When our faith in God is weak:

- We are anxious (v2) and exhibit 'rotten fruit' (opposite of the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5.22-23)
- We make poor decisions (See Ahaz in 2 Kings 16)
- We display fake piety (v12)

How to Strengthen Your Faith

1. Look for the daily **REMINDERS** of God's love and care for you.

Go out, you and your son Shear-Jashub v3

...he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1.6

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29.11

2. Be careful to avoid doing **STUPID STUFF**. 'Be careful, keep calm and don't be afraid.' v4

To make rash, hasty decisions shows that you are not trusting the Lord. But when you rely totally on God, you will still act carefully and prudently.

Proverbs 28.25 TPT

3. Believe that God is **SOVEREIGN** and **IN CONTROL** of your situation. vv6-7

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16.33

4. Live boldly as a **CHILD OF GOD** knowing that God has equipped you with **EVERYTHING YOU NEED**.

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

2 Peter 1.3

5. Adopt a 'God is **ALWAYS WITH ME**' mindset.

Immanuel = God with us v14

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28.20



What is God saying to me?

What am I going to do about it?