

MINING THE MESSAGE



11-30-2025

Title	<i>The Unexpected Journey of Hope</i>
Scripture	<i>Isaiah 7:1-17</i>
Speaker	<i>Jeff Terrell</i>
Big Idea	<i>The events of prophecy of Immanuel provide an unexpected opportunity to recalibrate our hope!</i>

OUTLINE

Where is Your Source of Hope? (1-6)

1. In verses 1-6, Ahaz turns to human alliances like the king of Assyria (2 Chronicles 28:16) instead of God amid threats from Israel and Syria. What sources do you typically rely on for hope in crises, and how would biblical hope reshape your expectations?
2. How does the fear described in Isaiah 7:2 reflect times in your life when uncertainty overshadowed hope, and how does trusting God's sovereignty and His presence reshape your expectations when outcomes look anything but positive?

Where is Your Standard of Hope? (7-9)

1. Pastor Jeff said, "Faith is having enough knowledge to step forward without having to have all the knowledge." How does knowing God's character and promises give you enough knowledge to step forward in uncertainty, and how much do your decisions depend on those promises over feelings or visible circumstances?
2. In what ways does biblical faith, as confidence in unseen promises, serve as the standard for hope, preventing Ahaz-like instability? How does anchoring faith in Jesus, Immanuel, rather than circumstances, stabilize hope when things feel shaky?

Where is Your Supposition of Hope? (10-17)

1. Ahaz refuses God's offered sign, but God gives His own sign anyway. What does this reveal about God's determination to anchor your hope in Him rather than changed circumstances? How does this change your focus and perspective towards God and His purposes in this Advent season?

Where is Your Shift of Hope? (8:10)

1. Matthew explains that "Immanuel" means "God with us." How does that name shape the way you think about who Jesus is (his identity) and what He came to do (his mission)? If Jesus' first coming fulfills Isaiah 7:14 in part, how does His promised second coming complete the hope of "God with us" so that God will dwell with His people fully and visibly forever (Revelation 21:3)?