## **♦**SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, November 26, 2017

## "SEEING BEYOND A MESSY WORLD"

(Isaiah 7:1-16)

Today we begin moving toward the Christmas season with a new series – *Messy Christmas*. We often have a vision of how our Christmases should work out – everything smooth, beautiful, and all wrapped up in a bow. It doesn't always or even often work out that way, does it? The same is true for life. It's messy. The good news of the Christmas story is that Jesus came into this messy world and He enters our messy lives bringing hope and help.

"In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could not yet mount an attack against it. When the house of David was told, "Syria is in league with Ephraim," the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind" (Isaiah 7:1-2, ESV).

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"Ahaz was twenty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem. And he did not do what was right in the eyes of the Lord, as his father David had done, but he walked in the ways of the kings of Israel. He even made metal images for the Baals, and he made offerings in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom and burned his sons as an offering, according to the abominations of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel. And he sacrificed and made offerings on the high places and on the hills and under every green tree" (2 Chronicles 28:1-4, ESV).

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"He did not do what was right in the eyes of the Lord his God" (2 Kings 16:2, ESV).

- God always has a word for you in the day of your trouble.
- God is always bigger than what your fear.
- If you don't <u>live by faith</u>, everything in your life will <u>come</u> unglued.