

Sermon 2007 Christmas Eve

Text: Is. 7:10-14

Theme: "How Deep is Sheol? How High is Heaven?"

So here it is, Christmas Eve! Did you get everything done? Are you still in the midst of the hubbub like we are, balancing church services with family dinners and opening presents, looking at Christmas lights and trying not to burn the rolls but at the same time not be in the kitchen the whole time? Maybe you feel a little like you are caught in the middle of a circus act – a juggling act perhaps – trying to duck and dodge and juggle all the demands and all the emotions and all the opportunities and by Monday night you will be exhausted and thanking Jesus not for coming at Christmas but for Christmas coming to a close! That's okay. Lot's of people celebrate the coming of January!

King Ahaz, King of Judah, felt like someone caught in the middle of a juggling act in a three ring circus. Israel and Damascus wanted to go together to battle the giant to the North – Tiglath-Pileser, King of Assyria. But they had begun attacking Judah because King Ahaz refused to join them. And while Ahaz was busy with them, the kingdoms in the South began making