

general, as can be seen by the usage of plural pronouns in these two verses in the Hebrew text. Verses 15-17 refer to a child in Ahaz's day because the address is to Ahaz alone, as can be seen in the shift to singular pronouns in the Hebrew text. This child is probably Shear-Yashuv of verse three. Hence, the double reference speaks of two persons separated by a period of time. It avoids the pitfalls of double fulfillment. If the verse could refer to a non-virgin birth, then there is no real evidence or prophecy for a real virgin birth in the Old Testament.

The third law is *The Law of Recurrence*. This law describes the fact that in some passages of Scripture there exists the recording of an event followed by a second recording of the same event giving more details to the first. Hence, it often involves two blocks of Scripture. The first block presents a description of an event as it transpires in chronological sequence. This is followed by a second block of Scripture dealing with the same event and the same period of time, but giving further details as to what transpires in the course of the event.

An example of *The Law of Recurrence* in a prophetic passage is Ezekiel 38:1-39:16. Ezekiel 38:1-23 gives a complete account of the invasion of Israel from the north and the subsequent destruction of the invading army. This is followed by the second block of Scripture, Ezekiel 39:1-16, which repeats some of the account given in the first block and gives some added details regarding the destruction of the invading army. Another example is in Isaiah 30-31. Isaiah 30 gives a complete account of the fall of Judah's alliance with Egypt. Chapter 31 simply repeats the prophecy, adding more detail. An example found in a non-prophetic passage is Genesis 1:1-2:25. Genesis 1:1-2:3 records the seven days of creation in strict chronological sequence. The passage ends on the seventh day. Then the second block of Scripture, Genesis 2:4-25, in keeping with *The Law of Recurrence*, goes back to the sixth day to provide added details as to the manner by which Adam and Eve were created. This law also functions in the Book of Revelation. Chapters 6-16 detail the chronological sequence of the events of the Tribulation, ending with Armageddon and the Second Coming. Then chapters 17-18 follow *The Law of Recurrence*: Chapter 17 provides more detail about the first half of the Tribulation and chapter 18 about the second half.

The fourth law is *The Law of the Context*, which states: *A text apart from its context is a pretext*. A verse can only mean what it means in its context and must not be taken out of its context. When it is taken out