- There is a point before death, in some cases, where God will not hear anymore and where the chance to come to Him has been closed. Notice the effect of biblical preaching, in this case, is that it pushes such a person further away not closer to God; it is a judicial hardening.
- 1. Isaiah 6:1-10
 - ✓ In Matthew 12 the Pharisees accuse Jesus of using Satanic power (Beelzebub) to carry out His miracles, so from Matthew 13 on Jesus changes His style of preaching from open, clear messages to parables so that they would not be able to understand what He said. In Matthew 13:10-13 the door was open for the Jewish people up until that point and was closed from thereafter. "Then I said, "Lord, how long will this go on?...." Isaiah 6:11-12" it's one thing to harden your heart to the message of God and an altogether other thing for God to harden you on top of that, note 2nd Thessalonians 2:11-12 Lies have great power when God allows us to fall into the life of lies He's been trying to keep us from, this level of lies factor in heavily in times to come. Isaiah 6:13 God has judicially hardened Israel but not permanently and not to a person: see Romans 11:7-11; 25-29.

2. Isaiah 7:1-9

- ✓ Ahaz was a train wreck of a king. God takes them from the answers to their current situation to the answers to a far future and far more important situation than this one. Isaiah 7:10-14 This is the crux of a debate over the virgin birth of Jesus; many say that this doesn't say specifically a "virgin". Answers to the Virgin birth debate.
 - 1) There was no word in Hebrew for virgin only two words for "maiden" one for a young girl not ready for marriage and another for older girl ready for marriage, both imply virginity.
 - 2) What kind of sign is it that a young woman (not a virgin) conceives? Isn't that how we all got here? There is no sign at all if that is what this means.
 - 3) 200 years before Jesus, 70 Hebrew scholars set out to translate the Old Testament into the dominant Gentile language of the time, Greek. They took the meaning of "maiden" here that implies virginity and translated into a very specific language that would leave no question as to the point that is being made in the text. They translated this Hebrew word into a Greek word that uniquely refers to virginity (Parthenos). That is the same Greek word that Mary uses when she asks the angel "how can this be, since I am a virgin." See Matthew 1:18, 23, Genesis 3:15-16.
- ✓ Why was Jesus born of a virgin? Why be born at all? First, He had to be a kinsman (a man) only a man can pay for man's sins. Second, sin was inherited from the males but not females; so, Jesus receives his genetic code from Mary but not sin from Joseph. Jeremiah 22:28-30, uh oh! This is line of the Messiah; the next king to come would have come from this line. God effectively curses all of Jeconiah's descendants keeping him from bringing a king to the throne. He was a direct descendant of David through Solomon. In Satan's lair they threw a party, probably, thinking that God had cursed His own Messiah. No more Messiah? But God had another way, the virgin birth!

3. Two Genealogies

✓ Matthew's genealogy is through Solomon to Joseph, who was legally Jesus' father, Matthew's goal was prove that Jesus had a legal right to the throne. But Jesus has to me more than just the legal son of Joseph to be the king, He has to be the blood descendant of David. Luke's genealogy does not start with Abraham as Matthew's does because he's not trying to prove Jesus right to a Jewish throne but the fact that He is a man, so, he traces Jesus' line back to the original man, Adam.

- Luke's genealogy is also through Joseph, but it doesn't list any of Joseph's ancestors after David, why is that? Matthew 1:16 compared to Luke 3:23, a contradiction in the Bible? Every seeming contradiction has always been a contradiction in our brains and not in the text of Scripture. Luke 3:31-32 God went around Jeconiah's blood curse way back before Solomon. Women weren't typically named in genealogies only the men, and this is how Joseph gets into the line of Mary. He's the son-n-law (by law, a son) the curse that would have stopped any blood descendant of Jeconiah, including Joseph, from the coming to the throne was broken by the virgin birth! On the one hand, Jesus has a legal right to the throne through Joseph, but He also has a blood right, without any curse, through Mary. God has gone around our curse through the virgin birth; any heir of Adam is cursed with sin and there is no way to be born without the instrumentality of man who is a descendant of Adam. God doesn't just go around Jeconiah's curse through the virgin birth, He goes around Adam's curse as well (1st Corinthians 15:21-22; Romans 5:17, 19).
- ✓ There is a man on the throne of God because of the virgin birth! Why does God bother with all of this? Ephesians 2:7. We are and will be the demonstration of God's infinite love for eternity. Understand God's love: God knowingly created man allowing him to get himself into a predicament that nothing other than the incarnation and death of God Himself could fix. Isaiah 7:15-16 eating these things was not a good thing, it was an idiom for poverty or deprivation, thickened milk and honey was the food of desert wanders. It implies bad times, but now we are talking about (Isaiah's child not the child of Mary) this is shifting back to the current events in the time of Ahaz the king. Isaiah 7:17-19 the hired razor is the kingdom of Assyria, to shave was a symbol of shame and humiliation, the leprous person had to shave like this. Israel has become leprous with sin. Isaiah 7:20 this implies hard times and poor provisions. Isaiah 7:21-25 what once was cultivated, settled, cared for was to go back to nature and grown over because of God's Judgment.
- There is a man on the throne of God because of the virgin birth! Why does God bother with all of this? We are and will be the demonstration of God's infinite love for eternity. Understand God's love, God knowingly created man allowing him to get himself into a predicament that nothing other than the incarnation and death of God Himself could fix.