

22 – HEZEKIAH – PART 2 **(2 KINGS 18:13-20:21; 2 CHRONICLES 32:1-33)**

I. The Assyrian Invasion (2 Kings 18:13-19:37; 2 Chronicles 32:1-23)

A. Sennacherib's Threat (2 Kings 18:13-37; 2 Chronicles 32:1-19)

- In the 14th year of Hezekiah, Sennacherib took all the fortified cities of Judah.
- The Chronicler records that Sennacherib entered Judah after Hezekiah's deeds of faithfulness.
- Hezekiah sent a message to Sennacherib and confessed he had done wrong in rebelling.
- He asked Sennacherib to name any price to impose and he will pay it.
- Sennacherib imposed a tribute of 300 talents of silver and 30 talents of gold.
- Hezekiah gave him all the silver from the Temple and the king's palace.
- Hezekiah also stripped all the gold from the Temple doors and the pillars.
- After being paid the tribute, Sennacherib sent a large army to take Jerusalem.
- The Chronicler records that Hezekiah had the springs surrounding Jerusalem stopped up.
- Hezekiah also had the defenses of Jerusalem repaired and reinforced.
- Hezekiah called the people to be strong and courageous in the face of the Assyrian army.
- Messengers from Assyrian brought a message to Hezekiah from Sennacherib.
- They mocked Hezekiah for trusting in his plans or a possible alliance with Egypt.
- They also mocked Hezekiah for trusting the Lord since the high places were taken down.
- They mocked Hezekiah for declaring that Judah will only worship at the altar in the Temple.
- They called Judah to give allegiance to Sennacherib and he will give them 2,000 horses.
- They proclaimed that they had been directed by the Lord to destroy Jerusalem.
- Hezekiah's servants called the messenger to speak in Aramaic and not Hebrew.
- They did not want the people to hear the message from Sennacherib.
- The messenger replied that he was sent by his master to speak to people as well as Hezekiah.

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- The messenger told the people not to listen to their king concerning deliverance from the Lord.
- The messenger offered the people peace if they would surrender to the Assyrian King.
- The messenger stated that the gods of the others nations could not save them from Assyria.
- The messenger questioned whether the God of Israel could deliver Jerusalem.
- The people held their peace and did not answer because Hezekiah had commanded them not to.
- Hezekiah's servants then reported to him the words of the messenger with their clothes torn.

B. Hezekiah's Request (2 Kings 19:1-7; 2 Chronicles 32:20)

- Hezekiah responded to the message by mourning in sackcloth and ashes.
- Hezekiah went to the Temple and sent his servants to the prophet Isaiah.
- They told Isaiah the words of the messenger and called Isaiah to pray for the remnant.
- Isaiah reported the Lord called them to not be afraid of the messenger's words.
- The Lord will send a spirit upon the Assyrian king to return to his own land where he will die.

C. The Rumor of Ethiopia (2 Kings 19:8-13)

- The Assyrian king heard a rumor that Ethiopia was coming out to battle with him.
- The Assyrian king sent another message to Hezekiah not to think he will be delivered.
- Again, he told Hezekiah that the gods of the others nations could not save them from Assyria.

D. Hezekiah's Prayer (2 Kings 19:14-19)

- When Hezekiah received the message, he laid it out before the Lord in prayer.
- Hezekiah asked the Lord to hear the threats of Sennacherib and save them from him.
- He wanted the Lord to save them so that the kingdoms of the world will know he alone is God.

E. The Lord's Response (2 Kings 19:20-34)

- Isaiah proclaimed that the Lord has heard the king's prayer because Hezekiah prayed.
- The Lord proclaimed his greatness as the protector of Jerusalem.
- The Lord tells Sennacherib that he will not come into the city nor will he attack it.

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- The Lord states that Sennacherib will return by the way that he came.
- The Lord states that he will defend Jerusalem for the sake of David.

F. The Lord's Judgment (2 Kings 19:35-37; 2 Chronicles 31:21-23)

- On a certain night, the Angel of Lord went out and killed 185,000 in the Assyrian camp.
- When the people rose early in the morning, they found the corpses of the dead.
- Sennacherib departed and returned home in shame to Nineveh.
- When Sennacherib went to the temple of his god, he was killed by his sons.

II. Hezekiah's Sickness (2 Kings 20:1-11; 2 Chronicles 32:24)

- During this time, Hezekiah became sick and was near death.
- Isaiah came to the king and stated that the Lord had told him to set his house in order.
- Hezekiah prayed and wept before the Lord, saying that he has been faithful in his service.
- Before Isaiah made it to the middle court, the word of the Lord came to him as he was leaving.
- The Lord told Isaiah to tell the king that he has heard his prayer and has seen his tears.
- The Lord will heal the king and that the king will come to the Temple on the third day.
- The Lord will add 15 years to the king's life and he will deliver Jerusalem from Assyria.
- Hezekiah asked what would be the sign that this will take place.
- Hezekiah requested that the shadow go backwards 10 degrees rather than forward.
- Isaiah cried out to the Lord and the shadow went backward 10 degrees on Ahaz's sundial.

III. Hezekiah's Pride and Achievements (2 Chronicles 32:25-30)

- The Chronicler records that Hezekiah did not repay the kindness of the Lord.
- Hezekiah was lifted up in his heart with pride and God's wrath was looming over Jerusalem.
- God's wrath did not come in Hezekiah's days because he humbled himself before the Lord.
- Hezekiah has great riches and honor as he provided for the cities of Judah with abundance.
- Hezekiah also brought water to west side of Jerusalem through a tunnel.

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IV. Visitors from Babylon (2 Kings 20:12-19; 2 Chronicles 32:31)

- The king of Babylon sent letters and a present for Hezekiah when he heard he was sick.
- The Chronicler records that this was a test to see what was in Hezekiah's heart.
- Hezekiah was attentive to the Babylonians and showed them all of the treasures of Judah.
- Isaiah came to the king and asked why the men came and where did they come from.
- Hezekiah stated that they were from Babylon and that they had seen all in his house.
- Isaiah then proclaimed that the time will come when the Babylonians will carry everything away.
- The Babylonians will take away some of his sons and they shall be eunuchs in Babylon's palace.
- Hezekiah proclaimed that the Lord's word was good, since there will be peace in his days.

IV. The Death of Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:20-21; 2 Chronicles 32:32-33)

- The writer of Kings lists where the details of Hezekiah's reign are recorded.
- The Chronicler records that Hezekiah's reign is also recorded in the vision of Isaiah (Isaiah 36-39).
- Hezekiah died and they buried him in the upper tombs of the sons of David.
- All Judah and Jerusalem honored Hezekiah at his death and made his son Manasseh king of Judah.