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| 2. Acts on godly advice | Stops water leading to enemy v 4 |
| 3. Strengthened himself | Proving a big God v 5 |
| 4. Begins to build | Wall, tower, another wall. No time self-pity v 5 |
| 5. Refuses to hide | Calls people to open square |
| 6. Overcomes self/fear | Encourages others in the Lord... |

Be strong and courageous! We have a big God who fights our battles

If we are on God's side...then it is His fight and our shared victory

2 Chronicles 32:16 [Read] [Servants of King of Assyria] spoke **against the Lord God** and against His servant Hezekiah. 17 He also wrote letters to **revile the Lord God of Israel**, and to speak against Him, saying, "As the gods of the nations of other lands have not delivered their people from my hand, so the God of Hezekiah will not deliver His people from my hand." 18 Then they called out with a loud voice in Hebrew to the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, **to frighten them and trouble them**, that they might **take the city**. 19 And they spoke against the God of Jerusalem, **as against the gods of the people of the earth—the work of men's hands.**

**King Hezekiah gains courage in the Lord and passes it on to others
Yet enemy continues to try to discourage through fear Ch. 18**

- Satan seeks to take advantage of us but...

2 Corinthians 2:11b... we are not ignorant of his devices. [Thoughts toward us for evil purposes]

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Satan's bullying of God's people...

- **Fear of Abandonment:** You can't win and you are alone...

...And in whom do you trust, that you rebel against me?

- **Fear of Humiliation:** Submit or I will embarrass you

... [your friends] will eat and drink their own waste with you?"

- **Fear of Defeat:** Take the easy way out and you will win

...do not listen to Hezekiah, lest he persuade you, saying, "The Lord will deliver us."

- **Fear of Failure:** God is not willing/able to deliver you

... [Can] the Lord ...deliver Jerusalem from my hand?

- Assyria using all of these as they stand at the door of Jerusalem

2 Kings 18:36 But the people held their peace and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, **"Do not answer him."**

- **Text 2 Kings 19...**

I. Isaiah Assures Deliverance

1 And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard *it*, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth [signs of deep mourning], and **went into the house of the Lord.**

Assessed situation. Enemy is at the door. Done all we can do. What now?

- **Hezekiah went into the house of the Lord**

Psalm 46:10 Be **still**, and **know that I am God**; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

- Recalibrate
- Refocus
- Seek wisdom...

Psalm 91:1 He who dwells in the **secret place** of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the Lord, "**He is my refuge and my fortress**; My God, in **Him I will trust.**"

- **Trust:** Willing to go through the trials with Him to stand with Him on other side

2 Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, **covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet**, the son of Amoz. 3 And they said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah: 'This day is a day of trouble, and rebuke, and blasphemy; for the children have come to birth, but there is no strength to bring them forth. 4 It may be that the Lord your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the Lord your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.' "

Near birth but there is no strength to complete it
We have done all we know to do...we are ready but what do we do next

- **Hezekiah sought the supernatural Word of God**
 1. Went into house of the Lord
 2. Sent messengers for a Word from Isaiah his prophet
 3. Ask Isaiah to pray for a Word from the Lord

Psalm 130:5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, And **in His word I do hope.**

5 So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah. 6 And Isaiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to your master, 'Thus says the Lord: "**Do not be afraid of the words which you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.** 7 Surely I will **send a spirit upon him**, and he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.' "

- **Hezekiah receives the Word of the Lord**

1. Do not be afraid of the enemy's words toward you
2. He has blasphemed Me...**I will deal with him**

John 15:18 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own ... **20b** If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.

- Went into the House of the Lord
- Sought supernatural Word of the Lord
- Received the Word of the Lord: **I got this...**

SUMMARY Isaiah Assures Deliverance

II. Hezekiah's Prayer

8 Then the Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah, for he heard that he had departed from Lachish. 9 And the king heard concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "Look, he has come out to make war with you." So he again sent **messengers to Hezekiah**, saying, 10 "Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying: '**Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you**, saying, "Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." 11 Look! You have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them; and shall you be delivered? 12 Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, Gozan and Haran and Rezep, and the people of Eden who were in Telassar? 13 Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?' "

- Assyria hears rumor Ethiopia is coming to attack them
- Before leaving Judah a few last digs in a letter to Hezekiah...**we're coming back**
 1. Don't let your God deceive you
 2. Remember what we did to others

Goal? Fear leading to discouragement, confusion and ultimately defeat

Fear is our enemy and is defeated by faith...

14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah **went up to the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord.**

- Hezekiah again went to the house of the Lord
- Hezekiah laid out his concerns before the Lord

We are not to test the Lord but we are to prove Him out

Hezekiah's prayer of faith in a big God

15 Then Hezekiah **prayed before the Lord, and said: "O Lord God of**

Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. 16 Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God. 17 Truly, Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, 18 and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands—wood and stone. **Therefore** they destroyed them. 19 Now therefore, O Lord our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that **all the kingdoms of the earth** may know that **You are the Lord God, You alone.**"

- **Teach us to pray Lord...**

Luke 11:2 [Recognition of who God is] Our Father in heaven, [Praise] Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. [Petition] 3 Give us day by day our daily bread. [Confession] 4 And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. [Deliverance] And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

- **Recognition:** God of Israel
- **Praise:** You are God alone/Creator
- **Petition:** Listen and see.
- **Confession:** We are scared. They are a fierce enemy who have destroyed
- **Deliverance:** Save us from his hand

SUMMARY Hezekiah's Prayer

III. The Word of the Lord

20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: '**Because you have prayed** to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, **I have heard.**' 21 This is the word which the Lord has spoken **concerning him:**

- **I have heard Hezekiah's prayer:** Can our prayers be hindered?

1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers **may not be hindered.**

- Prayer of a righteous man...

James 5:16 ... pray for one another, that you may be healed. The **effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**

- **God heard Hezekiah's prayer...**and gives an answer through Isaiah

Word to your enemies Hezekiah...

21b... 'The virgin, the daughter of Zion, Has **despised you, laughed you to scorn;** The daughter of Jerusalem Has **shaken her head behind your**

back!

- **Virgin daughter of Zion; i.e. Jerusalem My City**
 1. Despised you
 2. Shaken her head at you
 3. Laughed at you when every time you turned away...

22 `Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice, And lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

**Who did you think you were messing with?
Mess with My people and you mess with Me**

Romans 8:31 If God is for us, who can be against us?

- Don't mess with God's bride...

23 By your messengers you have reproached the Lord, And said: "By the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, To the limits of Lebanon; I will cut down its tall cedars And its choice cypress trees; I will enter the extremity of its borders, To its fruitful forest. 24 I have dug and drunk strange water, And with the soles of my feet I have dried up All the brooks of defense."

- **Boasting against the Lord:** Who is the Lord that I should serve Him?
- Boasted in your strength?

25 `Did you not hear long ago How I made it, From ancient times that I formed it? Now I have brought it to pass, That you should be For crushing fortified cities into heaps of ruins. 26 Therefore their inhabitants had little power; They were dismayed and confounded; They were as the grass of the field And the green herb, As the grass on the housetops And grain blighted before it is grown.

- **I used you for My purposes**
 1. I used you to judge others
 2. Now you will be judged...

27 `But I know your dwelling place, Your going out and your coming in, And your rage against Me. 28 Because your rage against Me and your tumult Have come up to My ears, Therefore I will put My hook in your nose And My bridle in your lips, And I will turn you back By the way which you came.

- **I know you...**

1. I know where you live
2. I know your hatred toward Me
3. I know how you treated your prisoners

Therefore, I will put My hook in *your nose* And My bridle in *your lips*

Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

James 2:13 For judgment is **without mercy** to the one who has shown no mercy.

29 'This shall be a sign to you: 'You shall eat this year such as grows of itself, And in the second year what springs from the same; Also in the third year sow and reap, Plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. 30 And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah Shall again take root downward, And bear fruit upward. 31 For **out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant**, And those who escape from Mount Zion. The **zeal of the Lord of hosts** will do this.'

- **Sign to God's people in midst of siege/famine**

1. This year you will eat what springs up and next year the same
2. The third year you will sow and reap as you did before the siege

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. I will deal our enemy Myself...

32 "Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: 'He **shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow** there, Nor come before it with shield, **Nor build a siege mound** against it. 33 By the way that he came, By the same shall he return

- I will deal with Assyria quickly

Malachi 3:5 ...I will come near you for judgment; I will be a **swift witness**

1 Thessalonians 5:2 ... the day of the Lord so comes as a **thief in the night.**

- **Won't know what hit 'em...**

33b... And he shall not come into this city,' Says the Lord. 34 'For **I will defend this city, to save it** For **My own sake** and for **My servant David's sake.**' "

- **God the Defender of Jerusalem**

I will defend and save My city for My own sake and for My servant David's sake

- Promise to David that the Messiah would come from his line

SUMMARY The Word of the Lord

IV. Defeat and Death: End of those who Taunt

35 And it came to pass on a certain night that **the angel of the Lord** went out, and **killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand**; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead.

- **The Angel of the Lord:** Jesus Christ will avenge His people while they sleep
- **Prophecy fulfilled...**

Hosea 1:7 Yet I will have mercy on the house of Judah, Will save them by the Lord their God, And will **not save them by bow, Nor by sword,** battle,[not] By horses/ horsemen.”

- **185,000 Assyrians dead:** Historical fact

36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria **departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh.** 37 Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the temple of Nisroch his god, that **his sons** Adrammelech and Sharezer **struck him down with the sword**; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place. [c.f. Isaiah 37]

“God spared Sennacherib, not in mercy, but in wrath, reserving to him a more dreadful and shameful death by the hands of his own children.” [Poole]

- Enemies of God and God’s people will be judged with a Word...

2 Thessalonians 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

If we are on God’s side...then it is His fight and our shared victory