



# WEDNESDAY EVENING

## AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

**Title:** Praying in Crisis

**Passage:** 2 Kings 19:14-19

**Speaker:** Bro. Keith Roberts

**Introduction:** By the time 2 Kings 19 begins, Hezekiah is facing one of the greatest crises of his life. The mighty Assyrian Empire had already conquered much of Judah and now stood at Jerusalem's doorstep. Their king, Sennacherib, not only threatened God's people but openly mocked the God of Israel. Though Hezekiah had faithfully sought to honor the Lord, he discovered that living for God does not exempt anyone from crisis. Faced with a situation beyond human ability, Hezekiah did the only thing he could do: he took the crisis into the presence of God. In this passage, Hezekiah teaches that crisis should not drive God's people from Him in fear; it should drive them to Him in prayer.

### I. The Crisis He Faced

#### A. It was a fearful crisis

There are moments in life when the pressure is real. Faith does not mean you never feel fear. Faith means you know where to take your fear.

#### B. It was an impossible crisis

Some crises remind us that we are limited. We cannot control everything, solve everything, or carry everything.

#### C. It was a spiritual crisis

Many crises are not just emotional or physical; they are spiritual. The enemy wants crisis to make us doubt God, question God, and drift from God.



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## **II. The Place He Went**

### **A. He went to God immediately**

Too often we pray last instead of first. We worry, talk, complain, strategize, and exhaust ourselves before we finally pray.

### **B. He brought the problem honestly**

Prayer is not giving God information He lacks. Prayer is giving God the burden we cannot carry.

### **C. He refused to carry alone what belonged to God**

The letter was too heavy for Hezekiah's heart, but it was not too hard for God's hand.

Prayer takes the weight off the heart of man and places it before the throne of God.

## **III. The Prayer He Prayed**

### **A. He remembered who God is**

In crisis, do not begin by rehearsing how big the problem is. Begin by remembering how great God is.

### **B. He was honest about the problem**

Hezekiah did not deny reality. He admitted that Assyria had destroyed other nations. He admitted the threat was real.

Biblical faith is not pretending there is no problem. Biblical faith brings the problem under the authority of God.

### **C. He asked for deliverance for God's glory**

The greatest prayers are not just about getting relief. They are about God receiving glory.



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Praying in crisis is not just asking God to change the situation; it is asking God to reveal Himself through the situation.

#### **IV. The God Who Answered**

A. God heard his prayer

Sometimes the first comfort in crisis is not that the problem is gone, but that God has heard.

B. God defended His people

When God takes responsibility for the battle, the enemy is already defeated.

There are battles only God can fight. There are doors only God can open. There are burdens only God can lift. There are enemies only God can defeat.

C. God delivered in His power

The point of the story is not that Hezekiah was strong. The point is that Hezekiah knew where to go when he was weak.

Prayer does not make us powerful; prayer brings us to the God who is powerful.

**Conclusion:** Hezekiah teaches us that crisis should not drive us away from God in fear, but to God in prayer. When the burden is too heavy, spread it before the Lord. What fear, problem, or burden have you been carrying on your own? Bring it to God. Hezekiah's weakness became the place where God's power was displayed, and the same can be true in our lives. Whatever your crisis may be, spread it before the Lord.