

Defining Moments
Hezekiah – Overcoming Compromise
2 Kings 18-20

Today we are continuing our series, “Defining Moments”

This week my family had another defining moment...



Jase was born on Tuesday, 9/22...

He weighed 9lb 9oz and was 22 inches long

Momma, Daddy and baby are all good!

ONE THING

Defining Moments are those FAITH MOMENTS that create a SPIRITUAL MOMENTUM to unlock a SUPERNATURAL MOVEMENT of God.

When we read through 1&2 Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles, we are hit by an interesting statement...

The commentary on each king goes one of two ways...

Either he is considered a good king because he followed the Lord

Or he is considered an evil king because he led the people to worship idols...

King Hezekiah was considered a very good king

2 Chronicles 29:1–2 (ESV) — Hezekiah began to reign when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother’s name was Abijah the daughter of Zechariah. And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, according to all that David his father had done.

Listen to the commentary about him...

2 Kings 18:5 (ESV) — He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him.

During Hezekiah's life he was confronted with many opportunities to compromise...

Today I am going to show you the FIVE TIMES we are tempted to COMPROMISE in our life...

Each of these will be very familiar to you...

Hezekiah, although raised as the son of a king, was raised by a father with not only compromised, but led the people to turn their backs on God...

At the age of 25 Hezekiah took his Dad's place as king and was determined to bring the people back to God...

You talking about an almost impossible task!...

If you think it is hard trying to get yourself to personally follow the Lord, try leading others to follow the Lord!...

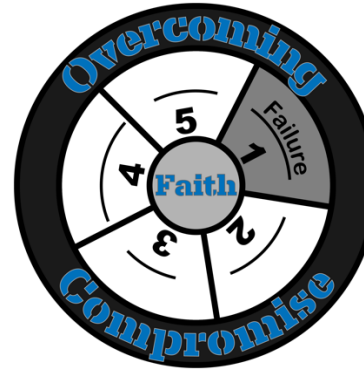
This morning in my One Year Bible reading I read the passage the Lord told me was my "JOB DESCRIPTION"

Philippians 1:9–10 (ESV) — And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

Early on I had to face this first compromise moment...

Compromise Moment #1 - FAILURE

→ FAILURE – Pic 1



The northern kingdom of Israel had already fallen to Assyria and many had been deported...

Hezekiah reached out to them to join in on celebrating the Passover with him...

2 Chronicles 30:9 (ESV) — For if you return to the Lord, your brothers and your children will find compassion with their captors and return to this land. For the Lord your God is gracious and merciful and will not turn away his face from you, if you return to him.

He even sent couriers to the Northern tribes of Israel that had already fell to defeat against the Assyrians...

But look at their response...

2 Chronicles 30:10 (ESV) — So the couriers went from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh, and

as far as Zebulun, but they laughed them to scorn and mocked them.

How did King Hezekiah handle the obvious rejection and apparent failure?

He did not retaliate or quit...

He did not get discouraged or disheartened...

Instead he celebrated Passover with those who joined him...

He removed all the pagan idols throughout the land...

He restored the Temple of the Lord...

He returned the priest back to their priestly duties...

He reinstated the Passover celebration...

2 Chronicles 31:20–21 (ESV) — Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah, and he did what was good and right and faithful before the Lord his God. And every work that he undertook in the service of the house of God and in accordance with the law and the commandments, seeking his God, he did with all his heart, and prospered.

Hezekiah refused to fall to Satan’s attack in this potential and apparent failure...

In times of apparent failure:

- **Stand FIRM on God’s PROMISES**

The Lord is NOT looking for a majority before He moves with His blessings and favor...

The Lord is looking for a REMNANT!

Compromise Moment #1 - FAILURE

Compromise Moment #2 - FATIGUE

→ FATIGUE – PIC 2



2 Kings 18:7b (ESV) — ... He rebelled against the king of Assyria and would not serve him.

Over the next several years Hezekiah was building up fortified cities...

Between leading the people back to faith in God and protecting the nation from Assyria, the world power of the day, Hezekiah was in non-stop activity...

This began to wear on him physically, mentally, emotionally, and most of all spiritually...

After several years of tireless work the Assyrians began attacking those fortified cities...

Listen to what the Scripture tells us...

2 Kings 18:13 (ESV) — In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.

Listen to Hezekiah’s response...

2 Kings 18:14–16 (ESV) — And Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, “I have done wrong; withdraw from me. Whatever you impose on me I will bear.” And the king of Assyria required of Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. And Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king’s house. At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD and from the doorposts that Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid and gave it to the king of Assyria.

***He accepted defeat and attempted to FIX the problem
In times of agonizing fatigue:***

➤ ***Stand STILL in God’s PROTECTION***

We tend to panic and make rash decisions that, under normal circumstances, we wouldn’t make...

➔ ***ILLUSTRATION – Moses’ panic at the Red Sea***

Exodus 14:13–14 (ESV) — 13 And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. 14 The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

Exodus 14:15–16 (ESV) — 15 The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. 16 Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground.

Compromise Moment #1 - FAILURE

Compromise Moment #2 - FATIGUE

Compromise Moment #3 - FEAR

➔ ***FEAR – PIC 3***



Hezekiah had called for Isaiah the prophet...

2 Kings 19:3–4 (ESV) — 3 They said to him, “Thus says Hezekiah, This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to the point of birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth. 4 It may be that the LORD your God heard all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.”

2 Kings 19:6–7 (ESV) — 6 Isaiah said to them, “Say to your master, ‘Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. 7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land, and I will make him fall by the sword in his own land.’ ”

They had prayed...

A letter was sent from the Assyrian king to Hezekiah threatening to destroy them unless they surrendered...

2 Kings 19:14 (ESV) — 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.

2 Kings 19:19 (ESV) — So now, O Lord our God, save us, please, from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone.”

What was God’s response...

2 Kings 19:35 (ESV) — And that night the angel of the Lord went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the

Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies.

In times of abject fear:

➤ **Stand SECURE in God’s POWER**

Compromise Moment #1 - FAILURE

Compromise Moment #2 - FATIGUE

Compromise Moment #3 - FEAR

Compromise Moment #4 - FRUSTRATION

→ FRUSTRATION – PIC 4



Look now at what happens next...

2 Chronicles 32:24 (ESV) — In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death, and he prayed to the Lord, and he answered him and gave him a sign.

2 Kings 20:1 (ESV) — In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him and said to him, “Thus says the Lord, ‘Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover.’”

2 Kings 20:2–3 (ESV) — Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, saying, “Now, O Lord, please remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

In times of absolute frustration:

➤ ***Stand NEAR to God’s PRESENCE***

Compromise Moment #1 - FAILURE

Compromise Moment #2 - FATIGUE

Compromise Moment #3 - FEAR

Compromise Moment #4 - FRUSTRATION

Compromise Moment #5 - FAME

➔ **FAME – PIC 5**



2 Kings 20:6 (ESV) — ... I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David’s sake.

2 Kings 20:10–11 (ESV) — And Hezekiah answered, “It is an easy thing for the shadow to lengthen ten steps. Rather let the shadow go back ten steps.” And Isaiah the prophet called to the Lord, and he brought the shadow back ten steps, by which it had gone down on the steps of Ahaz.

2 Chronicles 32:25 (ESV) — But Hezekiah did not make return according to the benefit done to him, for his heart was proud. Therefore wrath came upon him and Judah and Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 32:31 (ESV) — And so in the matter of the envoys of the princes of Babylon, who had been sent to him to inquire about the sign that had been done in the

land, God left him to himself, in order to test him and to know all that was in his heart.

Caution: Experiencing mighty miracles can bring personal PRAISE leading to spiritual PRIDE!

Hezekiah

- **Began his reign** **25 yrs...**
- **Victory over the Assyrians,**
- **Divine healing,**
- **God's amazing promise**
- **A Miraculous sign** **39 yrs**

2 Chronicles 33:1–2 (ESV) — Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to the abominations of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel.

Reality: If FAILURE has SLAIN its thousands, SUCCESS has SLAIN its tens of thousands!

In times of abundant fame:

- **Stand CLEAR of all PRIDE**

→ **Complete PIC 6**



Defining Moments
Hezekiah – Overcoming Compromise
2 Kings 18-20

Defining Moments are those _____ that create
a _____ to unlock a
_____ of God.

Compromise Moment #1 - _____

➤ Stand _____ on God's _____

Compromise Moment #2 - _____

➤ Stand _____ in God's _____

Compromise Moment #3 - _____

➤ Stand _____ in God's _____

Compromise Moment #4 - _____

➤ Stand _____ to God's _____

Compromise Moment #5 - _____

➤ Stand _____ of all _____

