The Park Church: Corporate Bible Study

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST

PRAYING THE NAMES OF GOD:

WEEK 19 – EL CHAY (LIVING GOD)

MIN. TAURA SULLIVAN

“ We pray to the God who is the ideal husband the one who provides for and protects his people and refuses to divorce us no matter how unfaithful we may be.”

- Ann Spangler

(Looking Back)

“The title El Chay, the living God, emphasizes God’s role as Creator of all that is, in contrast with idols made of metal, wood, or stone, which are merely the creations of human hands .”

- ANN SPANGLER

(Moving Forward)

“Then the Assyrian king’s chief of staff told them to give this message to Hezekiah:
“This is what the great king of Assyria says: What are you trusting in that makes you so confident? Do you think that mere words can substitute for military skill and strength? Who are you counting on, that you have rebelled against me?”

- 2 Kings 18: 19-20, NLT

2 Kings 19: 9 – 13, NOG

9 Now, Sennacherib heard that King Tirhakah of Sudan was coming to fight him.

Sennacherib sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying, **10** "Tell King Hezekiah of Judah, 'Don't let the god whom you trust deceive you by saying that Jerusalem will not be put under the control of the king of Assyria. **11** You heard what the kings of Assyria did to all countries, how they totally destroyed them. Will you be rescued? **12** Did the gods of the nations which my ancestors destroyed rescue Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, 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 cities of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivvah?'"

Deception:
The Enemy's Battle Strategy

- Rupture the view of God's Character (vs. 10)
- Wrongly rely on what is heard (vs.11)
- Mocking (vs. 12 and 13)

2 Kings 19: 14-19, NOG

14 Hezekiah took the letters from the messengers, read them, and went to ***Yahweh's*** temple. He spread them out in front of ***Yahweh*** **15** and prayed to ***Yahweh***, "***Yahweh***, ***Elohim*** of Israel, you are enthroned over the angels.[a] You alone are ***Elohim*** of all the kingdoms of the world. You made heaven and earth. **16** Turn your ear toward me, ***Yahweh***, and listen. Open your eyes, ***Yahweh***, and see. Listen to the message that Sennacherib sent to defy ***Elohim Chay***. **17** It is true, ***Yahweh***, that the kings of Assyria have leveled nations.[b] **18** They have thrown the gods from these countries into fires because these gods aren't real gods. They're only wooden and stone statues made by human hands. So the Assyrians have destroyed them. **19** Now, ***Yahweh*** our ***Elohim***, rescue us from Assyria's control so that all the kingdoms on earth will know that you alone are ***Yahweh Elohim***."

Prayer: Hezekiah's Foundational Battle Strategy

- Avoids Apathy (vs. 19:1-4, 14)

- Takes it to the Lord (vs. 14, 15)

- Talks to the Lord (vs. 15-19)
- Acknowledges who He is and where He is seated
- Asks for God's attention to the matter
- Identifies Who this attack is truly against
- Addresses the facts
- Proclaims the truth over the situation
- Asserts the why (For God's Glory)

2 Kings 19: 35-37, NOG

35 It happened that night. ***Yahweh's*** angel went out and killed 185,000 soldiers in the Assyrian camp. When the Judeans got up early in the morning, they saw all the corpses.

36 Then King Sennacherib of Assyria left. He went home to Nineveh and stayed there. 37 While he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisroch, Adrammelech and Sharezer assassinated him and escaped to the land of Ararat. His son Esarhaddon succeeded him as king.

How do we approach the El Chay, the living God, in prayer?

With Confidence:

Hezekiah prayed to the true and living God. He is the image of someone who knows God and goes to Him in Prayer, with confidence in Who He is and what He is able to do.

Connecting to The Name:
Discussion Questions - 4, 5, 6

- We too have enemies with which to contend, though often these enemies come from inside (like anger , addiction, depression) rather than outside. What difficulties besiege you or someone that you you love today?

- What lies do you need to reject in order to trust in the Living God's Power to deliver?

- Like Hezekiah did, what truths about God can you proclaim over these circumstances?