

LESSONS THAT SHAPE OUR LIFE 3 - TRUST

I. WHERE DOES TRUST COME FROM?

- **THE HARDEST LESSONS WE FACE ARE THE ONES THAT SHAPE OUR LIVES THE MOST**
- **THE DESIRE TO PLEASE GOD POSITIONS US TO GROW IN TRUST. NOT HONORING GOD SETS US UP FOR CALAMITY**
- **HEZEKIAH, King of Judah, WAS RAISED IN A BROKEN HOME (AHAZ - his father, was an evil king) YET HE MADE CHOICES TO ALIGN WITH DAVID INSTEAD OF AHAZ - he tore down the high places and restored PASSOVER)**
- **HIS STORY - 2 KINGS 18-20; 2 CHRONICLES 29-32; ISAIAH 36-39**

2 KINGS 18:5 *[HEZEKIAH] trusted in the LORD God of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor who were before him.⁶ For he held fast to the LORD; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD had commanded Moses.⁷ **The LORD was with him; he prospered wherever he went. And he rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him.⁸ He subdued the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city.***

A. HEZEKIAH'S TRUST WAS TESTED- *Testing shows us our limit*

2Kings 18:28 *Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out with a loud voice in Hebrew, and spoke, saying, "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria!²⁹ Thus says the king: "**Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he shall not be able to deliver you from his hand;³⁰ nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, "The LORD will surely deliver us; this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."**³¹ Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus says the king of Assyria: "Make peace with me by a present and come out to me; and every one of you eat from his own vine and every one from his own fig tree, and every one of you drink the waters of his own cistern;³² until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive groves and honey, that you may live and not die. But do not listen to Hezekiah, lest he persuade you, saying, "The LORD will*

deliver us.”³³ *Has any of the gods of the nations at all delivered its land from the hand of the king of Assyria?*³⁴ *Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim and Hena and Ivah? Indeed, have they delivered Samaria from my hand?*³⁵ *Who among all the gods of the lands have delivered their countries from my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem from my hand?’ ”*

1. **HEZEKIAH WAS INTIMIDATED SO HE PAID THE RANSOM TO ASSYRIA AFTER THE DEFEAT OF SAMARIA AND ISRAEL.**
2. **ONCE YOU GIVE IN TO FEAR, IT ALWAYS DEMANDS MORE OF YOU - ONCE SENNACHERIB SAW THAT HEZEKIAH WAS WILLING TO PAY, HE PRESSED HIM FOR TOTAL SURRENDER.**
3. **FINALLY, HEZEKIAH SENT FOR ISAIAH - AND PRAYED**

II. LIFE EXPERIENCE WILL EITHER TEACH US TO TRUST OR TO FEAR

A. ASSYRIA WAS THE SUPERPOWER- BUT GOD WAS GREATER!

1. **ISAIAH’S WORD TO HEZEKIAH:**

2Kings 19:5 *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.*” ’ ”

2. **THE PROMISE OF GOD TO HEZEKIAH AFTER HE PRAYED:**

2Kings 19:32 *“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; 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.’ ”*

3. **THE OBLITERATION OF THE ASSYRIAN ARMY - 185,000 ASSYRIANS DEAD IN A SINGLE NIGHT.**

God delivered the Israelites from the Assyrians. They were a vicious, violent, military force. Their strategy was to re-populate the conquered land with their own people thereby destroying any ethnic trace of the conquered people.

2Kings 19:35 *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.* **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.*

III. LEARNING TO LIVE FROM TRUST IS A LIFE-LONG OCCUPATION

A. THE EXAMPLE OF DANIEL

*DANIEL LIVED UNDER FOREIGN KINGS MOST OF HIS LIFE. God prospered him and gave him favor under four different kings. Sometimes he lived in obscurity, sometimes his life was in danger. **But, he lived consistently under the care of his God. His trust did not change his circumstances. He was blessed through hard times and good times.***

- **BELIEVING GOD AND TRUSTING GOD ARE NOT THE SAME THING**
- **TRUST COMES FROM BEING EXPOSED TO REPEATEDLY FAITHFUL BEHAVIOR**
- **THE FRUIT OF TRUST IS REST AND PEACE**
- **GOD MAKES PROMISES SO WE CAN KNOW HIM. HIS CHARACTER IS REVEALED WHEN HIS PROMISES ARE FULFILLED.**
- **WHAT WE THINK GOD HAS PROMISED IS NOT THE SAME AS WHAT HE HAS ACTUALLY PROMISED. GOD IS NOT OBLIGATED BY OUR NEED OR DESIRE FOR CERTAIN OUTCOMES, ONLY BY HIS WORD.**

- **TRUST IS OUR WILLINGNESS TO REST OUR FAITH IN A WORD RATHER THAN A PARTICULAR ACTION.**
- **TRUST KEEPS US SAFE. TRUST DELIVERS US. TRUST IS PEACE.**
- B. MY OWN TRUST LESSONS - SPAIN/ HAVING CHILDREN/ WAITING FOR MINISTRY/ FINANCES/ GRIEF AND LOSS/ FEAR FOR CHILDREN/ CANCER/ LIVING FULLY ALIVE**
- **TRUST GROWS OUT OF RELATIONSHIP. *It is cultivated from love over time. It is the comfortable familiarity of rest in a safe place or person.***
- **TRUST AND HARDSHIP SHOW UP IN OUR LIFE AT THE SAME TIME.** Most of us have our share of hardship. Trust grows from the afterwards times. **If we reflect on outcomes, the difference between what we feared or wanted to happen with what actually happened, we begin to see the hand of God.**
- **TRUST GROWS OUT OF TRUTH** - honest, nothing hidden self-revelation. Trust built on deception and lies is a house built on sand. It can never endure.
- **NOT KNOWING HOW SOMETHING WILL TURN OUT IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO TRUST GOD**

Job 13:15 *Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him. Even so, I will defend my own ways before Him.*

Psa. 5:11 *But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them; Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You.*

Psa. 9:10 *And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.*

Psa. 20:7 *Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*

Psa. 34:8 *Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who*

trusts in Him!

Psa. 37:3 *Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.*

Psa. 37:5 *Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.*

Psa. 125:1 *Those who trust in the LORD Are like Mount Zion, **Which cannot be moved**, but abides forever.*

Prov. 3:5 *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.*

Is. 26:3 *You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. ⁴ Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, (as in HALLELU-JAH!) the LORD, is everlasting strength.*

Jer. 17:7 *“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD.*