

2 Chronicles 32

King James Version (KJV)

32 After these things, and the establishment thereof, Sennacherib king of Assyria came, and entered into Judah, and encamped against the fenced cities, and thought to win them for himself. (This is 14 years after the last chapter. By this time, the 10 northern tribes had been defeated and taken captive by the Assyrians)

²And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was come, and that he was purposed to fight against Jerusalem,

³He took counsel with his princes and his mighty men to stop the waters of the fountains which were without the city: and they did help him. (The upper Gihon was in the open air, outside the walls of Jerusalem. They made canals to force the water underground. That would prevent a siege army from having access to the water)

⁴So there was gathered much people together, who stopped all the fountains, and the brook that ran through the midst of the land, saying, Why should the kings of Assyria come, and find much water? (A siege army needs water in the desert)

⁵Also he strengthened himself, and built up all the wall that was broken, and raised it up to the towers, and another wall without, and repaired Millo in the city of David, and made darts and shields in abundance. (25:23 – Joash of Israel had broken down that wall) (Jehoshaphat had built up towers with catapults on top) (darts = missiles of attack - spears and arrows)

(At this time, Sennacherib was also laying siege to Lachish in southern Judah)

⁶And he set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the street of the gate of the city, and spake comfortably to them, saying, (he – Hezekiah)

⁷Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him: (When God is with you, you have a majority)

⁸With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon

the words of Hezekiah king of Judah. (Sennacherib has men; we have God. The people trusted in Hezekiah's words)

⁹After this did Sennacherib king of Assyria send his servants to Jerusalem, (but he himself laid siege against Lachish, and all his power with him,) unto Hezekiah king of Judah, and unto all Judah that were at Jerusalem, saying, (In the British museum, there is Sennacherib's cylinder which documents these sieges. He claims to have taken 42 fenced cities of Judah, and has Hezekiah trapped in Jerusalem like a bird in a cage)

¹⁰Thus saith Sennacherib king of Assyria, Whereon do ye trust, that ye abide in the siege in Jerusalem? (Sennacherib sent his general, Rabshekah to Jerusalem)

¹¹Doth not Hezekiah persuade you to give over yourselves to die by famine and by thirst, saying, The LORD our God shall deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria? (persuade = seduce)

Amos-8:11 (The famine of the end times is not for bread, but for hearing the Word of God – unchanged and complete)

¹²Hath not the same Hezekiah taken away his high places and his altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, Ye shall worship before one altar, and burn incense upon it? (They were places of idolatry and should have been taken down. Rabshekah is saying that the king made those gods angry. He is blaspheming God)

¹³Know ye not what I and my fathers have done unto all the people of other lands? were the gods of the nations of those lands any ways able to deliver their lands out of mine hand? (Their heathen gods couldn't stop us)

¹⁴Who was there among all the gods of those nations that my fathers utterly destroyed, that could deliver his people out of mine hand, that your God should be able to deliver you out of mine hand? (Your God, Yahoveh, won't be able to save you from us either)

¹⁵Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither yet believe him: for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of mine hand, and out of the hand of my fathers: how much less shall your God deliver you out of mine hand? (The Assyrians are a type for antichrist, in the end

times. They are blaspheming God to the Israelites, and trying to seduce them into surrendering)

¹⁶ And his servants spake yet more against the LORD God, and against his servant Hezekiah. (This is blasphemy against God. The Assyrians will pay for that. God will not be mocked)

¹⁷ He wrote also letters to rail on 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 out of mine hand, so shall not the God of Hezekiah deliver his people out of mine hand. (Isaiah encouraged Hezekiah to take these letters into the temple and lay them out before God)

¹⁸ Then they cried with a loud voice in the Jews' speech unto the people of Jerusalem that were on the wall, to affright them, and to trouble them; that they might take the city. 2Kings-18:27 (This is psychological warfare to destroy the morale of the people)

¹⁹ And they spake against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth, which were the work of the hands of man. (They were equating Yahoveh to the heathen idols of the other nations. They would soon learn a hard lesson for that) (In the Book of Daniel, the antichrist is also called the Assyrian)

²⁰ And for this cause Hezekiah the king, and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, prayed and cried to heaven. 2Kings-19:27 (God heard their prayer and responded through the prophet Isaiah)

²¹ And the LORD sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of his own bowels slew him there with the sword. (His two sons killed him in Assyria)

2Kings-19:35-37 (The angel killed 185,000 Assyrians in 1 night) (Upon his return to Assyria, Sennacherib's own sons slew him in their temple to Nishrok <a human body with the head and wings of an eagle>; their god, at Nineveh)

²² Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all

other, and guided them on every side. (guided = to protect and to feed) (God saved them; Hezekiah didn't do it)

²³ And many brought gifts unto the LORD to Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah: so that he was magnified in the sight of all nations from thenceforth. (His ego got the best of him. He will pay for it later)

²⁴ In those days Hezekiah was sick to the death, and prayed unto the LORD: and he spake unto him, and he gave him a sign. (God told him to get his house in order for he will die. He prayed to God for more time. God gave him 15 more years if he would humble himself) 2Kings-20

²⁵ But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem. (Hezekiah bragged about his treasure to the Babylonians – not real smart. Isaiah called him on it and told him he was foolish. As a result, his offspring would serve Babylon. Hezekiah replied that it's OK because it won't happen to him; just to his descendants) 2Kings-20

²⁶ Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah. (He was just looking out for himself. He made no attempt to plead with God on behalf of his descendants. But at least, he rooted all idolatry out of Judah and returned the people to God)

²⁷ And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honour: and he made himself treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of pleasant jewels;

²⁸ Storehouses also for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil; and stalls for all manner of beasts, and cotes for flocks. (cotes = enclosures for sheep & goats – an old Anglo Saxon word)

²⁹ Moreover he provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance: for God had given him substance very much. (cities = watch towers - to watch over flocks and herds – bad translation)

³⁰ This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And

Hezekiah prospered in all his works. (Moving the water underground would prevent an invading army from getting any water)

³¹ Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to enquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart. (Hezekiah still had pride in himself. That was his weakness)

³² Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. See Isaiah-36, 37, 38 & 39 also see 2Kings-18, 19 & 20

³³ And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefest of the sepulchres of the sons of David: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honour at his death. And Manasseh his son reigned in his stead. (Manasseh was one of the worst kings of Judah)