

34. Hezekiah: Prayer for Safety from Assyria

Isaiah 37:14-35 KJV

... Hezekiah received the letter ... went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD ... Hezekiah prayed ... O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear ... Sennacherib ... reproach the living God.

Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands, And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone ... I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God ...

Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, That which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard ... The virgin the daughter of Zion hath despised thee, and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee. Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel.

By thy messengers thou hast reproached the LORD, and hast said, With the multitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees ... the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the lodgings of his borders, and into the forest of his Carmel.

I have digged and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of besieged places. Hast thou not heard long ago how I have done it, and of ancient times that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste fenced cities into ruinous heaps ... their inhabitants were of small power ... dismayed and confounded ... as the grass of the field ... as the green herb, as the grass on the house tops, and as corn blasted before it be grown up.

But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me. Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest. And this shall be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves ... in the second year that which springeth of the same ... in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof. And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward. For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

... thus saith 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 cast a bank against it. By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD. For I will defend this city ...



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| ARROW | DOWNWARD | REAP |
| BEAR | DRUNK | REMNANT |
| BLASPHEMED | EXALTED | RUINOUS |
| BORDERS | GODS | SAVE |
| CAME | HEAPS | SCORN |
| CARMEL | HEAR | SIDES |
| CEDAR | ISAIAH | TUMULT |
| CHARIOTS | KINGDOMS | UPWARD |
| DAUGHTER | LODGINGS | VINEYARDS |
| DISMAYED | MULTITUDE | VIRGIN |