

Studies in the Book of

ISAIAH

36:1 – 37:38



Sennacherib's Prism

“Hezekiah himself, whom the terror-inspiring splendor of my lordship had overwhelmed and whose...troops had deserted him, did send to me, later, to Nineveh, my lordly city, together with 30 talents of gold, 800 talents of silver, precious stones,...In order to deliver the tribute and to do obeisance as a slave he sent his [personal] messenger.”



Sennacherib's Prism

"As to Hezekiah, the Jew, he did not submit to my yoke. I laid siege to 46 of his strong cities, walled forts, and to the countless small villages in their vicinity, and conquered [them]...I drove out of them 200,150 people, young and old, male and female, horses, mules, donkeys, camels, big and small cattle beyond counting and considered [them] booty. Hezekiah himself I made prisoner in Jerusalem, his royal residence, like a bird in a cage. I surrounded him with earthwork in order to molest those who were leaving his city's gate...Thus I reduced his country, but I still increased his tribute."

ISAIAH

- V. Historical section: Isaiah's activity during the reign of Hezekiah, **(Chs. 36-39)**.
 - A. Sennacherib's double attempt to obtain possession of Jerusalem, and the city's deliverance, **(Chs. 36-37)**.
 - 1. Sennacherib's invasion of Judah and capture of fortified cities, **(36:1)**.
 - 2. Rabshakeh sent by Sennacherib from Lachish against Jerusalem, **(36:2-37:7)**.
 - a. Rabshakeh's defiant threat, **(36:2-20)**.
 - b. The speech reported to Hezekiah, **(36:21-22)**.
 - c. Hezekiah's fear and Jehovah's reply to him, **(37:1-7)**.

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V. Historical section: Isaiah's activity during the reign of Hezekiah, **(Chs. 36-39)**.

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1. Sennacherib's invasion of Judah and capture of fortified cities, **(36:1)**.

2. Rabshakeh sent by Sennacherib from Lachish against Jerusalem, **(36:2-37:7)**.

3. Messengers from Sennacherib at Libnah demanding surrender of Jerusalem, **(37:8-38)**.

a. The insulting letter, **(vv. 8-13)**.

b. Effect on Hezekiah, and his prayer, **(vv. 14-20)**.

c. Isaiah to Hezekiah, and Jehovah's reply, **(vv. 21-35)**.

d. Destruction of Sennacherib's army, **(vv. 36-38)**.

Questions

1. Where can we read of these events outside of Isaiah?
2. What does **2 Chronicles 32:1-8** record Hezekiah doing as a reaction to the threat of Sennacherib? In all this, what did the people fail to do according to **Isaiah 22:8-11**?
3. What does **2 Kings 18:13-16** record Hezekiah doing when he saw Sennacherib take the fortified cities of Judah? Did it turn Assyria away?
4. How did Hezekiah respond when he heard what Rabshakeh said?
(37:1-4)
5. How did Hezekiah view the words of the Rabshakeh? **(37:4, 23-24)**

Questions

6. What did Hezekiah do when he read the letter received from Sennacherib? (**37:14-20**)
7. What was the Lord's word against Sennacherib? (**37:22-29**)
8. What was the Lord's promise concerning Jerusalem? (**37:30-32**)

Thought Question:

Compare **Isaiah 37:14-20** with **Acts 4:23-31**. What similarities do you see? What should our response be when confronted with trouble? What are some things we should include in such prayers?

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38:1-39:8