

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Kings Chapters 18-19! 5/4-5/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Review: 2 KINGS – Chapter 16 – Ahaz Reigns in Judah. Chapter 17 Hoshea Reigns in Israel; Israel Carried Captive to Assyria; Assyria Resettles Samaria.

THIS WEEK: 2 KINGS – Chapter 18 – Hezekiah Reigns in Judah – (vs. 1-16); Sennacherib Boasts Against the LORD – (vs. 17-37). Chapter 19 - Isaiah Assures Deliverance – (vs. 1-7); Sennacherib's Threat and Hezekiah's (Great) Prayer – (vs. 8-19); The Word of the LORD Concerning Sennacherib (great answer through Isaiah-the power of prayer!) – (vs. 20-34); Sennacherib's Defeat and Death – (vs. 35-37).

- We are now coming to the reign of Hezekiah. He and Josiah probably rank as the two greatest kings of all Israel, outside of David.

Hezekiah Reigns in Judah

2Ki 18:1-2 Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea the son of Elah, king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign. [2] He was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abi (Abijah) the daughter of Zechariah.

- ***Hoshea was the last king of Israel.*** It was during his reign that the nation of Israel fell to Assyria. He reigned for nine years, so this was in the third year of his reign. (728BC). Although we are given a lot of information, it is hard to put together an exact chronological sequence of Hezekiah's life.
- ***Hezekiah reigned twenty-nine years.*** It is hard to be dogmatic about the beginning and ending dates of his reign.

2Ki 18:3 *And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done.*

- **Hezekiah modeled his kingdom after David.** He had a very wicked father who had led Judah into idolatry. Hezekiah no doubt, under the strong influence of Isaiah, was led away from the acts of his father, and did lead Israel in a spiritual renewal for the people. The accounts are elaborated upon in *2 Chronicles chapters 29-32*.

2Ki 18:4 *He removed the high places and broke the sacred pillars, cut down the wooden image and broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made; for until those days the children of Israel burned incense to it, and called it Nehushtan.*

- **He removed the high places,** which other kings did not do because it was convenient. Beware of convenience religion. It was obviously displeasing to God. He also *broke the images. He cut down the groves. He broke in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it. He called it Nehushtan,* which was the bronze serpent that Moses had raised in the wilderness.
- **If you must look back, at the time of God's work and blessing upon your life,** if you cannot look around and see a present-tense relationship, then you are in a dangerous spiritual state. You have been sliding backwards. Your relationship with God should be tighter, and more exciting right now than it has ever been before. When a person begins to worship a relic, an object, it is a sign of spiritual decay. It is also a sign of that longing to again see the work of God.

2Ki 18:5 *He 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.*

- **The most noble quality of Hezekiah** was that he relied on the LORD as his exclusive hope in almost every situation. What distinguished him from all other kings of Judah was his firm trust in the LORD during a severe national crisis. Despite troublesome events, Hezekiah clung tightly to the LORD, giving him success.

2Ki 18:6 *For he held fast to the LORD; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD had commanded Moses.*

- **Hezekiah remained faithful to the LORD.** He stuck with the LORD and kept His commandments.
- **The scripture promises that if a person will keep the law of the LORD, that God will prosper him.** When the kings and the people sought and served the LORD, God prospered them. They had power and victory over their enemies. When they forsook the LORD, then God would forsake them. They would go into captivity.
- **As Israel, so it is with the United States. As long as we seek the LORD,** and as long as we put God at the front, our nation will prosper and be blessed. But, when we turn our backs upon God, we can expect the nation to go downhill.
- **In the same ratio, that we have forsaken the LORD,** shoving God out of the national life, we see the nation going down. We see the horrible, unsolvable social evils. We see drug abuse, pornography, children running away from home, becoming prostitutes, becoming drug addicts. We see deficit spending by the government.
- **What the nation needs is a spiritual revival!** With that would come again, the strengthening of God, and the prosperity of God.

2Ki 18:7 *The LORD was with him; he prospered wherever he went. And he rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him.*

- **Hezekiah initiated the spiritual reform.** God blessed and prospered his reign! Assyria was ruling over Judah now demanding taxes and tribute, and so forth, and he rebels against the king of Assyria.

2Ki 18:8 *He subdued the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city.*

- **Being prospered by the LORD, under Hezekiah,** we see victory over Judah's enemies.

2Ki 18:9-10 *Now it came to pass in the fourth year of King Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea the son of Elah, king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria and besieged it. [10] And at the end of three years they took it. In the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is, the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.(722BC).*

- **The northern kingdom ended. With the fall of Samaria, the northern kingdom of Israel came to an end.** This last major division of the books of Kings narrates the events in the surviving southern kingdom of Judah from 722 B.C. to its captivity and destruction in 586 B.C. These chapters are dominated by the accounts of two good kings, Hezekiah and Josiah. However, reforms of these two godly kings did not reverse the effects of the two worst kings of Judah, Ahaz and Manasseh.
- **The result of Judah's apostasy was exile,** just like it was for Israel. The books of Kings begin with the building of the temple and end with its destruction, chronicling the sad journey from the establishment of true worship to the destruction of apostasy.

2Ki 18:11-12 Then the king of Assyria carried Israel away captive to Assyria, and put them in Halah and by the Habor, the River of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes, [12] because they did not obey the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed (deliberately disobeyed) His covenant and all that Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded; and they would neither hear nor do them.

- It was not that they could not. It was that an act of their will, they would not listen to God's word nor obey!

Sennacherib Attacks Judah – No prayer by Hezekiah is mentioned prior to his response to the enemy!

2Ki 18:13 And in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.

- **The 14th Year Question:** A simple calculation of Hezekiah's reign from the fall of Samaria (722/721 B.C.) made it difficult to align his 14th year with Sennacherib's 701 B.C. campaign.

2Ki 18:14 Then Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lachish, saying, "I have done wrong; turn away from me; whatever you impose on me I will pay." And the king of Assyria assessed Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents (about 22,500 pounds) of silver and thirty talents (about 2,500 pounds) of gold.

- **Hezekiah apparently did not pray; did not resist; but capitulated against Sennacherib.** "Whatever you say I must pay, I will produce it. Whatever you put on me, I will bear."

2Ki 18:15-17 So Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the LORD and in the treasuries of the king's house. [16] At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria. [17] Then the king of Assyria sent the Tartan, the Rabsaris, and the Rabshakeh from Lachish, with a great army against Jerusalem, to King Hezekiah. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. When they had come up, they went and stood by the aqueduct from the upper pool, which was on the highway to the Fuller's Field.

- **This occurs fourteen years into his reign, and he knows better.** He has a better relationship with God than to do what he does here, and there is no mention of prayer when he is attacked at this point. He makes a mistake here in all of this. He should have resisted and all, but he did not.
- **But he is going to learn a lesson from it.** That is one of the great things about Hezekiah. It does not mean he was perfect every single time. But he loved the LORD. This is just a huge trial. He is making decisions now that are going to affect whether people live and die by the hundreds and thousands. He must make that decision. God is going to use it to make him even better for greater problems that are going to come in his future.
- **They have paid all this money to the king of Assyria,** and what does that do to wicked men like Sennacherib, who was over Assyria? It makes them hungry for more. They see how fast Hezekiah can produce ten tons of silver and one ton of gold. How much silver and gold must they have hidden elsewhere in the city?
- **Notice Hezekiah's huge mistake here in not going to pray to the LORD; in his taking such costly action without prayer! Fortunately, he learns and does not respond this way in (2Ki 19:14-20). How well am I learning from my mistakes? Have I learned this? To always pray first!**

2Ki 18:18-19 And when they had called to the king, Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder, came out to them. [19] Then the Rabshakeh said to them, "Say now to Hezekiah, 'Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: "What confidence is this in which you trust?"

- Notice he did not say, "To King Hezekiah." The guy is rude; he is discourteous; he is blasphemous.

2Ki 18:20 You speak of having plans and power for war; but they are mere words. And in whom do you trust, that you rebel against me?

- **The king of Assyria had a tremendous spy network.** Perhaps some of the captives were telling him about Hezekiah's plans for war because Hezekiah had asked Egypt for help. Even though Isaiah told him he should not. (Isa 30:1-2a) "Woe to the rebellious children," says the LORD, "Who take counsel, but not of Me, And who devise plans, but not of My Spirit, That they may add sin to sin; [2] Who walk to go down to Egypt, And have not asked My advice. Isaiah said to trust in the LORD. He will deliver you. Pharaoh's help never came!

2Ki 18:21-23 Now look! You are trusting in the staff of this broken reed, Egypt, on which if a man leans, it will go into his hand and pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him. [22] But if you say to me, 'We trust in the LORD our God,' is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and said to Judah and Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem?' [23] Now therefore, I

urge you, give a pledge to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses—if you are able on your part to put riders on them!

- Israel had an infantry, they had chariots, but they did not have a cavalry. He said, “If you would give me some money, I will sell you two thousand horses, but you do not even have men that can ride them!

2Ki 18:24-25 How then will you repel one captain of the least of my master's servants, and put your trust in Egypt for chariots and horsemen? [25] Have I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, 'Go up against this land, and destroy it.' ”

- This Rabshakeh is blasphemous. He said, “Do you not think that the LORD is commanding me?”

2Ki 18:26 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, Shebna, and Joah said to the Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it; and do not speak to us in Hebrew in the hearing of the people who are on the wall."

- Aramaic was similar to Hebrew, but enough different, that the common people did not know Aramaic.

2Ki 18:27 But the Rabshakeh said to them, "Has my master sent me to your master and to you to speak these words, and not to the men who sit on the wall, who will eat and drink their own waste with you?"

- The famine that will be so great that they will be partaking of their own body waste.

2Ki 18:28-32 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.'"

- This fellow broke every rule of protocol and diplomacy in trying to create a rebellion directly among the people, “Hey do not listen to your king.” He is telling you that your LORD is going to deliver you and help you. Do not believe it. The people knew that Assyria always practiced re-population.

2Ki 18:33 Has any of the gods of the nations at all delivered its land from the hand of the king of Assyria?

- These other people that we have conquered, they all had their gods. They all trusted in their gods, but none of their gods were able to deliver out of the hand of the king.

2Ki 18:34-36 Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim and Hena and Iyah? 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?' "[36] But the people held their peace and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, "Do not answer him."

- The people are to be commended as they held their peace, not answering!

2Ki 18:37 Then Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph, the recorder, came to Hezekiah with their clothes torn, and told him the words of the Rabshakeh.

Isaiah Reassures Hezekiah

2Ki 19:1 And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

- In distress, they are facing an enemy that is much more powerful than they are! They are facing great calamity. What does he do? He goes to the house of the LORD, which was a wise move!

2Ki 19:2 Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz.

- Hezekiah sends Eliakim to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, who had been around for a long time.

2Ki 19:3 And they said to him (Isaiah) "Thus says Hezekiah: 'This day is a day of trouble, and rebuke, and blasphemy; for the children have come to birth, but there is no strength to bring them forth.

- A proverb that speaks of the dire situation. We have problems that are greater than we are able to handle.

2Ki 19:4-5 It may be that the LORD your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD your God has

heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.' " [5] So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

- **It was a plea for Isaiah to pray to the LORD** with the hopes that God would hear the blasphemous things that were said by this emissary from Assyria, and that God would honor His name.
- **This is a great plan. You know, you are in trouble.** You are in a situation that seems beyond you. We need people that are mentors, who will pray for us in times of great need. People that you trust. It is always great to have those people in your life so that when the most difficult days come, you can send to them and say, "Do me a favor, would you pray? I am overwhelmed! I do not know how to handle this. This has come up. I certainly cannot deal with it. Would you pray? Would you seek the LORD for me? Hezekiah calls on Isaiah to pray!

2Ki 19:6 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.

- **That is a great way to start, isn't it?** That is a wonderful thing to hear. Isaiah told us to tell you not to be afraid of the blasphemous threats from the servants of the king of Assyria. The LORD is saying, Hezekiah, step aside. I am going to handle this.

2Ki 19:7 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."

- **Sennacherib has said "I will" many times. The LORD responds with just two, giving a promise to send a spirit upon him.** The Assyrian king is going to hear a rumor and return to his own land. Then the LORD is going to cause him to die a violent death in his own land, the stronghold of his own God. God is sovereign, bigger than all the nations of the world!

Sennacherib Defies the Lord

2Ki 19:8-9 Then the Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah, for he heard that he had departed from Lachish. [9] And the king heard concerning Tirhakah (690-664BC) king of Ethiopia, "Look, he has come out to make war with you." So he again sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,

- **Tirhakah the king of Ethiopia, was a powerful king.** He became the king of Egypt; he began in Ethiopia. He was an extremely powerful king. They heard that he was coming to Hezekiah's aid. Sennacherib sent a message to Hezekiah.

2Ki 19:10-14 "Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying: 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." [11] Look! You have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them; and shall you be delivered? [12] Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, Gozan and Haran and 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 city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?" "

Hezekiah's Prayer – This is a great example for us!

2Ki 19:14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

- **This is a great verse, worth underlining, worth remembering.** Hezekiah received the letter saying, Who does your God think He is? He cannot stand up to me. He has called God out. Who does He think He is? You are going to trust Him? I have wiped out everybody we have come up against.
- **When Hezekiah received the newsletter from the messengers, he read it!** Then Hezekiah then went up to the house of the LORD, and he spread it out before the LORD! Hezekiah took the letter, *spread it* out in front of Him, saying I am not a king or a commander-in-chief of my own army worthy of this task! Oh LORD, this battle is between You and Sennacherib! He is maligning You; blaspheming Your name; insulting You! LORD, this letter says it all! What a wonderful thing to do, to come into the house of the LORD!
- **LORD, this is what they are saying about me.** It is not my problem. I cannot carry it. I cannot fix it. So, I lay it out before **you**. The idea is to transfer it over to the LORD. (*1Pe 5:7*) *casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.* "No, I'm going to get alone with God and I'm going to lay this out in front of the LORD and hand it over to Him."
- **How consistent am I, when facing a desperate situation, in going directly to the LORD and praying first thing, rather than taking the matter into my own hands?**

2Ki 19:15 Then Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said: "O LORD God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

- He read it! He spread it! Then Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, recognizing there is only one true God. Notice the great address! To the One living God; You alone are, God! There are many other gods. The gods of the heathen, but there is only one true, and living God. *You alone* are the living God! You have seen the letter, which he has sent to reproach the living God.
- **Importance of the address of prayer! Notice Hezekiah's great address to whom his prayer is offered. How aware am I of just whom I am praying to when I pray?**

2Ki 19:16 Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God.

- (2Ch 6:40) Now, my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and let Your ears be attentive to the prayer made in this place. (Dan 9:4) And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments,

2Ki 19:17-18 Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, [18] and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands—wood and stone. Therefore they destroyed them.

- We never inform our Lord of something that He does not know, but we have a need to speak about these things. Not to inform Him. This wonderful aspect of prayer, informing not for His good, but for our good! Then he asks specifically for what he needs God to do here.

2Ki 19:19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD God, You alone."

- Now he gets to his request, "O LORD our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD God, You alone.
- We see that Hezekiah means that with all his heart. He is the man that trusted in the LORD, who clung to Him, that kept His commandments. He said, LORD save Your people out of this Assyrian king's hand so that all the nations will know that You alone are the only true God.
- **What a great example of prayer! Although this is Hezekiah's prayer, it is a great example for us in our praying to the LORD. We pray to the Father, in the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit!**

Isaiah Prophesies Sennacherib's Fall – Notice the connection between "Because you have prayed" and "I (LORD God) have heard!"

2Ki 19:20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard.'

- **Underline this verse in your Bible! Because you have prayed to me, I have heard!** Oh, what power in prayer! What if you did not pray? Sometimes people look and they say, "Well, what difference does prayer make?" I mean, God is sovereign, He's over all. Why would He even have us engage in prayer as Christians?
- **But we know right here that God is going to respond to our prayer.** One of the things about which we can be sure is that it makes a difference in the situation! I can pray with that confidence that God is hearing my prayer, and in this instant, my prayer is making a difference. The situation is different now based on my intercession than it was five minutes ago.
- **That is the confidence that we are to have in prayer.** God hears our prayers. He commands us to pray. He would never command us to do anything vain and repetitious in activity. Our prayers make a difference.
- **Jesus said, (Luk 11:9) "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.** These are wonderful promises that God gives to encourage a great faith in prayer, giving us a great sense of authority in our lifting up of needs in our own life and in the lives of other people. Here God is responding now to prayer!
- **"Because you have prayed...I have heard," says the LORD! May we never forget this verse! This teaching of the importance of prayer! Oh, the power of prayer and the difference that it makes!**

2Ki 19:21 This is the word (Isaiah speaking) which the LORD has spoken concerning him (Sennacherib): *'The virgin, the daughter of Zion, has despised you, laughed you to scorn; The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head behind your back!*

- **Sennacherib has laid out all these threats.** *The virgin, the daughter of Zion,* speaks of Jerusalem, and refers to Jerusalem as a virgin, someone who has not been violated, so Isaiah is basically saying Jerusalem is not going to be violated by Assyria.
- **Sennacherib has scorned, speaking of Jerusalem; Zion has despised you, laughed you to scorn!** They will make fun of you when you walk away after all your boasting, being unable to follow it up with action. *The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head behind your back.* Again, another imagery of scorn.

2Ki 19:22 'Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice, And lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

- **Hezekiah is glad to hear this.** Sennacherib, you thought you were blaspheming My people. You were blaspheming Me! I was listening! Notice God hears! Never, ever blaspheme the Holy One of Israel!

2Ki 19:23-25 By your messengers (Sennacherib) you have reproached the Lord, And said: "By the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, To the limits of Lebanon; I will cut down its tall cedars And its choice cypress trees; I will enter the extremity of its borders, To its fruitful forest. [24] I have dug and drunk strange water, And with the soles of my feet I have dried up All the brooks of defense." [25] 'Did you not hear long ago How I (the speaker changes to the LORD) made it, From ancient times that I formed it? Now I have brought it to pass, That you should be for crushing fortified cities into heaps of ruins.

- **Now the LORD is speaking.** Assyria, it was not in your strength that you were victorious over your enemies. "I the LORD have brought it to pass!

2Ki 19:26-29 Therefore their inhabitants had little power; They were dismayed and confounded; They were as the grass of the field And the green herb, As the grass on the housetops And grain blighted before it is grown. [27] 'But I know your (Sennacherib's) dwelling place, Your going out and your coming in, And your rage against Me. [28] Because your rage against Me and your tumult Have come up to My ears, Therefore I (the LORD) will put My hook in your nose And My bridle in your lips, And I will turn you back By the way which you came. [29] 'This shall be a sign to you (Changes from Sennacherib to Hezekiah): You shall eat this year such as grows of itself, And in the second year what springs from the same; Also in the third year sow and reap. Plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. [30] And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

- **Now in verse 29, the message switches from Sennacherib to Hezekiah.** God has heard the threats; He has heard the blasphemy. He is going to turn back this Assyrian king. God will give you the sign. This year, you are going to eat what is planted, of itself, without cultivation. Next year, the same. But in the third year, you are going to go out and plant your fields and vineyards, and you are going to dwell there in peace. You will eat the fruit. For the remnant, of God's seed that has escaped shall take root downward, and bear fruit upward!"

2Ki 19:31 For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, And those who escape from Mount Zion (Jerusalem). The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.'

- **The march of Sennacherib had driven many to take refuge** within the walls of Jerusalem, which they, when it was over would gladly "go forth," to recultivate their lands and restore their homes.
- **The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.** God's zealous love and care for His people will affect their complete restoration to prosperity and glory, difficult as it was at the time to imagine such a restoration.

2Ki 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.

- **Jerusalem will be spared a siege from Assyria!** Each of the successive stages of a siege is touched, and will not be allowed by the LORD. None of these things shall be done. There shall be no siege.

2Ki 19:33 By the way that he came, By the same shall he return; And he shall not come into this city,' Says the LORD.

- **This seems like a preposterous prophecy!** It seems unlikely because the Assyrian army is just outside! They are ready to set up the attack against the city. They are ready to start the siege. The troops are massing! Isaiah gives this most unrealistic prophecy. They are not going to *shoot an arrow* against this city. They are not going to lay up a siege mound against the walls.

2Ki 19:34 'For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David's sake.' "

- *I will defend...to save for My own sake* because My own honor is concerned in its preservation, especially after the taunts of Sennacherib. *And for my servant David's sake*. Not so much on account of the promises made to David, but on account of the love which I bore towards him for his faithfulness and earnest devotion.

2Ki 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.*

- **What a job God did on the Assyrians, wiping out 185,000 in one night!** *The angel of the LORD!* Remember in the Garden, when Peter drew his sword to defend Jesus, that Jesus said to Peter, “Put away your sword. Don’t you realize that if I wanted, at this moment I could call on ten legions of angels to deliver Me?” Now, if one angel could wipe out 185,000 Assyrians, imagine what ten legions of angels could do!
- **It is folly for us to seek to defend the Lord**, which we often feel called upon to do. He is perfectly capable of handling Himself in any situation. I will stand up for the Lord; But it is not necessary that I defend the Lord, He is perfectly capable of doing so. The angel of the LORD smote 185,000 of the Assyrian army.
- **Now, this whole area right in here, these two chapters, really take up most of the book of Isaiah.** To get a fuller understanding of this portion of history, we can look at the book of Isaiah.
- **Isaiah tells us that the time that God wiped out the Assyrian army, that a great fear fell upon all those men in Judah.** The sinners in Zion said, (*Isa 33:14*) *The sinners in Zion are afraid; Fearfulness has seized the hypocrites: "Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?"* They were really smitten with real fear when they saw the power of God against the Assyrians.

2Ki 19:36-37 *So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed (hurriedly) and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh. [37] Now it came to pass (probably 20 years later), 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 (681- 669BC) in his place.*

- **The reign of Sennacherib** and of his blasphemies against the LORD ended.

SUMMARY:

- **2Ki 18:15 Notice Hezekiah’s huge mistake here in not going to pray to the LORD;** in his taking such costly action without prayer! Fortunately, he learns and does not respond this way in (*2Ki 19:14-20*). How well am I learning from my mistakes? Have I learned this? To always pray first!
- **2Ki 19:14 How consistent am I, when facing a desperate situation, in going directly to the LORD** and praying first thing, rather than taking the matter into my own hands?
- **2Ki 19:15 Importance of the address of prayer!** Notice Hezekiah’s great address to whom his prayer is offered. How aware am I of just whom I am praying to when I pray?
- **2Ki 19:19 What a great example of prayer!** Although this is Hezekiah’s prayer, it is a great example for us in our praying to the LORD. We pray to the Father, in the name of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit!
- **2Ki 19:20 “Because you have prayed...I have heard,”** says the LORD! May we never forget this verse! This teaching of the importance of prayer! Oh, the power of prayer and the difference that it makes!

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS! –Thomas Chisholm – William Runyan, Tom Fetke (2:41/2:44)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

Refrain: *Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided; great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;

strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Kings, Chapters 20-21