

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

- I. God’s *Denunciation* of **Judah** (1:1-12:6)
- II. God’s *Denunciations* against **other Nations** (13:1-23:18)
- III. Isaiah’s *Description* of **End Time Events** (24:1-27:13)
- IV. Isaiah’s *Dire Warnings* to **Ephraim** and **Judah** (28:1-35:10)

V. Isaiah’s *Description* of the **Fourteenth Year** of **King Hezekiah** (36:1-39:8)

A. The *Taunts* from **Sennacherub**, the **King of Assyria** (36:1-22)

B. The *Tactful response* from **King Hezekiah** (37:1-20)

1. His *Posture* of **Humility** before **God** (37:1)

37 And when **King Hezekiah** heard *it*, he **tore** his **clothes**, **covered** himself with **sackcloth** and **entered** the **house of the LORD**.

2. His *Pursuit* of **God’s Prophet** (37:2-7)

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

³ They said to **him**, “Thus says **Hezekiah**, ‘This day is a day of **distress**, **rebuke** and **rejection**; for **children** have come to **birth**, and there is **no strength** to **deliver**.’”

⁴ Perhaps the **LORD your God** will hear the **words of 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, **offer a prayer** for the **remnant** that is **left**.”

⁵ So the **servants** of **King Hezekiah** came to **Isaiah**.

⁶ **Isaiah** said to them, “Thus you shall **say** to **your master**,

‘Thus says **the LORD**,
“Do **not be afraid** because of the **words** that you have **heard**,
with which the **servants** of the **king of Assyria** have **blasphemed Me**.

⁷ Behold, **I will** put a **spirit** in him so that he will **hear a rumor**
and **return** to his own land.
And **I will** make him **fall** by the sword in his own land.””

3. **His Persistent Threats** from **Rabshakeh** (37:8-13)

⁸ Then **Rabshakeh** returned
and found the **king of Assyria** fighting against **Libnah**
for he had heard that the **king** had left **Lachish**.

⁹ When he heard *them* say concerning **Tirhakah king of Cush**,
“He has come out to **fight against you**,”
and when **he heard it** he sent **messengers** to **Hezekiah**, saying,

¹⁰ “Thus you shall say to **Hezekiah king of Judah**,
‘Do **not let your God** in whom **you trust deceive you**, saying,
“**Jerusalem will not be given** into the **hand** of the **king of Assyria**.”

¹¹ Behold, you have **heard** what the **kings of Assyria** have **done** to all the **lands**,
destroying them completely. So will **you** be spared?

¹² Did the **gods** of *those nations*
which my fathers have **destroyed deliver them**,
even Gozan and Haran and Rezep
and the **sons of Eden** who *were* in **Telassar**?

¹³ **Where** is the king of **Hamath**, the king of **Arpad**,
the king of the city of **Sepharvaim**, *and of Hena and Ivvah*?”

4. **His Prayer** for **Deliverance** (37:14-20)

¹⁴ Then **Hezekiah** took the **letter**
from the hand of the **messengers** and **read it**, and he
went up to the **house of the LORD** and **spread it out** before **the LORD**.

¹⁵ **Hezekiah prayed** to the LORD saying,

¹⁶ “**O LORD of hosts**, the **God of Israel**, ,
who is **enthroned above** the **cherubim**, **You are the God**
You alone, of **all** the **kingdoms** of the **earth**.

You have made heaven and earth.

¹⁷ Incline **Your ear, O LORD**, and *hear*;
open **Your eyes, O LORD**, and *see*;
and *listen* to all the **words of Sennacherib**,
who *sent them to reproach* the living God.

¹⁸ Truly, **O LORD**, the **kings of Assyria** have *devastated*
all the **countries** and their **lands**,

¹⁹ and have **cast their gods** into the **fire**,
for they were **not gods** but the **work of men's hands**, wood and stone.
So they have *destroyed* them.

²⁰ Now, **O LORD our God**, **deliver us** from his hand that **all** the **kingdoms**
of the **earth** may **know** that **You alone, LORD**, are **God**."

Personal Application

Hezekiah's Response to Fearful Threats and Adversity, A **Model** for us to follow, when facing *severe adversity* →

→A. **Hezekiah**, facing *threats* from a **powerful adversary**, **humbled himself**, and went before **the LORD**.

And when **King Hezekiah heard it** (Sennacherub's *threats*),
he **tore his clothes**, **covered himself with sackcloth**
and **entered the house of the LORD**. (37:1)

He leads the humble in justice,
And **He teaches** the **humble** His way. (Psalm 25:9)

"For **My hand made** all these *things*,
Thus all these *things* came into **being**," declares **the LORD**.
"But to **this one** I will look,
To **him** who is **humble** and **contrite of spirit**, and who **trembles** at **My word**.
(Isaiah 66:2)

→B. **Hezekiah** used **trusted servants** and "**elders**" to help *bear his burden*, and *communicate* his desperate **need** for **help**.

Then **he (Hezekiah) sent Eliakim** who was **over the household**
with **Shebna** the **scribe** and the **elders** of the **priests**,
covered with sackcloth, to **Isaiah** the **prophet**,... (37:2).

For by **wise guidance** you will **wage war**,
And in **abundance of counselors** there is **victory**. (Proverbs 24:4)

→C. **Hezekiah sought out** the **prophet Isaiah** to both **intercede** for them,
and to **hear the word of the Lord** regarding these **threats**.

Isaiah said to them (**Hezekiah's messengers**),
"Thus you shall **say to your master**, 'Thus **says the LORD**,

"**Do not** be **afraid** because of the **words** that you have **heard**,
with which the **servants** of the **king of Assyria** have **blasphemed Me**.
Behold I will **put a spirit in him**...And I will **make him fall**...(37:6-7)

Your **word** is a **lamp** to my feet
And a **light** to my path.

You are my **hiding place** and **my shield**;
I wait for Your **word**. (Psalm 119:105, 114)

→D. **Hezekiah**, though he **continued** to receive **personal threats** from
the **Assyrian king** (37:8-13), he **faced** those **fears with faith in God**.

Then **Hezekiah** took the **letter**
from the hand of the **messengers** and **read it**, and he
went up to the **house of the LORD** and **spread it out before the LORD**. (37:14)

I **sought** the LORD, and **He answered me**,
And **delivered me** from **all my fears**. (Psalm 34:4)

The LORD is my **light** and my **salvation**; *whom shall I fear?*
The LORD is the **defense** of my **life**; *whom shall I dread?* (Psalm 27:1)

...in addition to all (the **armor of God**), taking up the **shield of faith**
with which you will be able to **extinguish** all the **flaming arrows**
of the **evil one**. (Ephesians 3:16)

→E. **Hezekiah Prayed** to the **one true God** for **deliverance**.

¹⁵ **Hezekiah prayed** to the LORD saying,..
"You are the **God, You alone**, of **all the kingdoms** of the earth...

Now, O LORD our **God, deliver us** from his hand that **all the kingdoms**
of the **earth** may know that **You alone, LORD, are God**."(37:15-16, 20)

Be **anxious for nothing**, but in **everything** by **prayer** and **supplication**
with **thanksgiving** let your **requests** be made **known to God**.

And the **peace of God**, which **surpasses** all *comprehension*, will **guard** your **hearts** and your **minds** in **Messiah Jesus**. (Philippians 4:6-7)

Closing Comments