## Isaiah "The **Evangelical** Prophet"

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

- A. The *Taunts* from Sennacherib, the King of <u>Assyria</u> (36:1-22)
- B. The *Tactful* response from King Hezekiah (37:1-20)
  - 1. His Posture of Humility before God (37:1)
  - 2. His *Pursuit* of <u>God's Prophet</u> (37:2-7)
  - 3. His Persistent Threats from Rabshakeh (37:8-13)
  - 4. His Prayer for <u>Deliverance</u> (37:14-20)

## C. The *Triumph* over the <u>Assyrian King</u> (37:21-38)

- 1. God's Response to Hezekiah's Prayer (37:21-29)
  - a. Zion's *Mockery* of the <u>Assyrian King</u> (37:21-23)

<sup>21</sup> Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent word to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel,

'Because you have <u>prayed</u> to Me about Sennacherib king of Assyria, <sup>22</sup> this is <u>the word</u> that the LORD has spoken *against him*:

> "*She* has despised you and <u>mocked you</u>, the virgin daughter of <u>Zion;</u>

She has shaken her head behind you, the daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>23</sup> "Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? and against whom have you raised your voice and haughtily lifted up your eyes? <u>Against</u> the Holy One of Israel!

b. Assyria's Misguided Perspective of her Power (37:24-27)

<sup>24</sup> "Through your servants you have <u>reproached</u> the Lord, and you have said, With my many <u>chariots</u> I came up to the heights of the mountains, to the remotest parts of Lebanon;

And I <u>cut down</u> its **tall cedars** and its **choice cypresses**. And I will go to its **highest peak**, its thickest **forest**.

<sup>25</sup> 'I dug wells and drank waters,

And with the **sole** of **my feet** I <u>dried up</u> all the *rivers of Egypt*.'

<sup>26</sup> "Have you **not heard**?

Long ago I <u>did</u> it, from ancient times I <u>planned</u> it.

Now *I have* brought it **to pass**, that **you** should turn **fortified** <u>cities</u> into *ruinous heaps*.

<sup>27</sup> "Therefore their **inhabitants** were **short of strength**, they were **dismayed** and put to **shame**;

They were as the vegetation of the field and as the green herb, as grass on the housetops is <u>scorched</u> before it is grown up.

#### c. Sennacherib's *Militancy* Humbled (37:28-29)

<sup>28</sup> "But I know your sitting down and your going out and your coming in and your raging <u>against</u> Me.

<sup>29</sup> "Because of your **raging** <u>against</u> Me and because your *arrogance* has come up to My ears,

Therefore I will put **My** *hook* in your <u>nose</u> and **My** *bridle* in your <u>lips</u>, and I will **turn you** *back* by **the** *way* which you came.

#### 2. God's *Restoration* of the <u>Land</u> and its <u>People</u> (37:30-32)

<sup>30</sup> "Then this shall be the <u>sign</u> for you (Judah): you will eat *this year* what grows of itself, in the *second yea*r what springs from the same, and in the *third year* <u>sow</u>, <u>reap</u>, <u>plant</u> vineyards and <u>eat their fruit</u>.

<sup>31</sup> The **surviving remnant** of the house of **Judah** will **again** take **root** *downward* and **bear fruit** *upward*.

<sup>32</sup> For out of **Jerusalem** will go forth a <u>remnant</u> and out of **Mount Zion** <u>survivors</u>. The *zeal* of the LORD of hosts will perform this."

## 3. God's *Removal* of the Assyrian Threat (37:33-38)

- a. His Defense of Jerusalem (37:33-35)
- b. His Destruction of the Assyrian Army (37:36)
- c. The *Demise* of **Sennacherib** (37:37-38)

<sup>33</sup> "Therefore, thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria,
'He will <u>not</u> come to this city or shoot an arrow there; and he will <u>not</u> come before it with a shield, or throw up a siege ramp against it.

<sup>34</sup> By the way that he came, by the same he will <u>return</u>, and he will <u>not</u> come to this city,' declares the LORD.

<sup>35</sup> 'For I will <u>defend</u> this city to save it for My own sake and for My servant David's sake.'"

<sup>36</sup> Then the angel of the LORD went out and struck <u>185,000</u> in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men arose early in the morning, behold, *all* of these were <u>dead</u>.

<sup>37</sup> So **Sennacherib king of Assyria** *departed* and returned *home* and lived at **Nineveh**.

<sup>38</sup> It came about as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons <u>killed him</u> with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son became king in his place.

## Personal Application God's <u>response</u> to Hezekiah—Key <u>Observations</u>

 $\rightarrow$  A. A *Prayer* said in <u>faith</u> answered—

Then **Isaiah** the son of Amoz sent *word* to **Hezekiah**, saying, "Thus **says the LORD**, the **God of Israel**,

**Because** you have <u>prayed</u> to Me about Sennacherib king of Assyria, this is <u>the word</u> that the LORD has spoken *against him*: (37:21-22a)

→B. A *Position* <u>reversed</u> by God—The Assyrian king Sennacherib, who <u>mocked</u> Hezekiah and his God, would *now* be <u>mocked</u>.

this is the word that the LORD has spoken against him (Sennacherib):

"She has despised you and mocked you,

the virgin daughter of <u>Zion;</u> She has shaken her head behind you, the daughter of <u>Jerusalem</u>! (37:22)

# →C. A *Powerful* response to an arrogant empire → It was the *sovereign* power of God that allowed Assyria's successes on the battlefield.

<sup>26</sup> "Have you not heard? Long ago I did it, from ancient times / planned it.

Now *I have* brought it **to pass**, that you should turn **fortified** <u>cities</u> into *ruinous heaps*. (37:26)

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The horse is *prepared* for the day of battle, But <u>victory</u> belongs to the LORD. (Proverbs 21:31)

→D. A *Proud* and *arrogant* king <u>abased</u> (Sennacherib)

Because of your **raging** *against* **Me** and because your <u>arrogance</u> has come up to **My ears**,

Therefore I will put **My** *hook* in your <u>nose</u> and **My** *bridle* in your <u>lips</u>, and I will **turn you** *back* by **the way** which **you came**.(37:29)

- →E. A *Prosperity* restored—to the <u>land</u> and its <u>surviving remnant</u> (37:30-32)
- $\rightarrow$  F. A *Protection* promised---to the city of <u>Jerusalem</u>

"Therefore, thus says **the LORD** concerning the **king of Assyria**, 'He will <u>not</u> come to **this city** or shoot an **arrow** *there;* and he will <u>not</u> come before it with a **shield**, or throw up **a siege ramp** against it...." (37:33)

### →G. A *Potent* army <u>struck down</u> by the LORD—

Then the **angel of the LORD** went out and **struck <u>185,000</u>** in the **camp** of the **Assyrians**; and when men **arose** early in the morning, behold, all of these were <u>dead</u> (37:36)

#### $\rightarrow$ H. A divine *Prediction* <u>fulfilled</u> (37:37-38)

Isaiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to your master (*Hezekiah*), 'Thus says the LORD, "Do not be *afraid*... Behold, I will put a spirit in him (*Sennacherib*) so that he will hear a rumor and <u>return</u> to his own land. And I will make him <u>fall</u> by the sword in his own land."""(37:6-7)

## Closing Comments