

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 Assyria (36:1-22)
- B. The *Tactful response* from King Hezekiah (37:1-20)
- C. The *Triumph* over the Assyrian King (37:21-38)
- D. The *Traumatic Sickness* of King Hezekiah (38:1-22)

E. The *Thoughtless Vanity* of King Hezekiah (39:1-8)

1. A Pompous show of Wealth (39:1-2)

³⁹ At that time Merodach-baladan son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had *recovered*.

² Hezekiah was pleased, and showed them *all* his treasure house, the *silver* and the *gold* and the *spices* and the *precious oil* and his *whole armory* and all that was found in his *treasuries*.

There was *nothing* in his house nor in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.

2. A Personal Inquiry (39:3-4)

³ Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and said to him, “*What* did these men say, and from *where* have they come to you?”

And Hezekiah said,
“They have come to me from a far country, from Babylon.”

⁴ He said, “*What* have they seen in your house?”
So Hezekiah answered,
“They have seen all that is in my house;
there is *nothing* among my treasuries that I have *not shown* them.”

3. A *Prophetic Judgment* (39:5-8)

⁵ Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah,

“Hear the word of the LORD of hosts,

⁶ ‘Behold, the **days** are coming when all that is in **your house** and all that your fathers have **laid up** in **store** to this day will be **carried to Babylon**; ***nothing*** will be **left**,’ says the LORD.

⁷ ‘And *some* of **your sons** who will issue from you, whom you will **beget**, will be **taken away**, and they will become **officials** in the **palace** of the **king of Babylon**.”

⁸ Then **Hezekiah** said to **Isaiah**,
“The **word** of the LORD which you have spoken is **good**.”
For *he thought*, “For there will be **peace** and **truth** in **my days**.”

Personal Application

A King’s Vanity—A Prophetic Judgment Biblical *Exhortations* to *those* who “**Boast**” in their **wealth, power, and wisdom**→

→ Thus says the LORD, “Let ***not*** a wise man **boast** of his wisdom,
and let ***not*** the mighty man **boast** of his might,
let ***not*** a rich man **boast** of his riches;

but let him who **boasts** **boast** of this,
that he **understands** and ***knows Me***,
that **I am the LORD** who exercises **lovingkindness, justice**
and **righteousness** on earth; for **I *delight*** in these things,”
declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 9:23-24)

→ In the **wilderness** **He fed you** (Israel) **manna** which **your fathers** did
not know, that **He might *humble you*** and that **He might *test you***,
to **do good** for **you** in the end.

Otherwise, you may **say** in **your heart**,
My power and the **strength** of **my hand** made me this **wealth**.’

But you shall **remember** the LORD **your God**,
for it is **He** who is **giving you power** to make **wealth**,
that **He** may confirm **His covenant** which **He swore** to **your fathers**,
as ***it is this day***. (Deuteronomy 8:16-18)

→ **Instruct those** who are **rich** in this **present world** **not** to be **conceited**
or to fix their **hope** on the ***uncertainty*** of riches, but on **God**,
who **richly *supplies us*** with **all things** to enjoy.

Instruct them to **do good**, to be rich in **good works**,
to be **generous** and ready to **share**,

storing up for themselves the **treasure** of a **good foundation** for the **future**,
so that they may **take hold** of that which is **life indeed**.

(II Timothy 6:16-19)

→ Do not **boast** about **tomorrow**,
For you do not know what a day may **bring forth**.

Let **another** praise you, and **not your own mouth**;
A **stranger**, and **not your own lips**. (Proverbs 27:1-2)

→ Riches do **not profit** in the day of **wrath**,
But **righteousness** *delivers* from **death**. (Proverbs 11:4)

→ He who **trusts** in his riches will **fall**,
But the **righteous** will **flourish** like the **green leaf**. (Proverbs 11:28)

A rich man's **wealth** is his **strong city**,
And like a **high wall** in his own **imagination**. (Proverbs 18:11)

→ Furthermore, as for **every man** to whom **God** has **given riches** and **wealth**,
He has also **empowered him** to eat from **them**
and to receive **his reward** and **rejoice** in **his labor**;
this is the **gift of God**. (Ecclesiastes 5:19)

→ so that, just as it is **written**, "LET HIM WHO **BOASTS**, **BOAST** IN THE LORD."
(I Corinthians 1:31)

A Final Example of "Boasting"

→ "All *this* happened to **Nebuchadnezzar** the king.

Twelve months later he was **walking** on the *roof of* the **royal palace** of **Babylon**.

The king **reflected** and said, 'Is this not **Babylon the great**,
which **I myself** have **built** as a **royal residence** by the **might** of **my power**
and for the **glory** of **my majesty**?'

While the **word** was in the **king's mouth**, a **voice** came from **heaven**, *saying*,

'**King Nebuchadnezzar**, to you it is declared:
sovereignty has been **removed** from you,

and you will be **driven away** from **mankind**,
and your **dwelling place** *will be* with the **beasts** of the **field**.

You will be **given grass** to eat like **cattle**,

and **seven periods** of time will pass over you
until you recognize that the **Most High** is **ruler** over the **realm of mankind**
and **bestows it** on **whomever He wishes.**

Immediately the **word** concerning **Nebuchadnezzar** was **fulfilled**;
and he was **driven away** from **mankind** and began **eating grass** like **cattle**,

and his **body** was **drenched** with the **dew of heaven**
until his **hair** had **grown** like **eagles' feathers**
and his **nails** like **birds' claws**.

“But at the **end** of that **period**, I, **Nebuchadnezzar**,
raised my eyes toward **heaven** and **my reason** returned to me,
and I **blessed** the **Most High**
and **praised** and **honored Him** who **lives forever**;
(Daniel 4:28-34)

Closing Comments