

Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

³³ "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come into this city or shoot an arrow there or come before it with a shield or cast up a siege mound against it. ³⁴ By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and he shall not come into this city, declares the LORD. ³⁵ For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David."

³⁶ And the angel of the LORD went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies. ³⁷ Then Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and returned home and lived at Nineveh. ³⁸ And as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, Adrammelech and Sharezer, his sons, struck him down with the sword. And after they escaped into the land of Ararat, Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

Hezekiah's Sickness and Recovery

38 In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die, you shall not recover." ² Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, ³ and said, "Please, O LORD, remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

⁴ Then the word of the LORD came to Isaiah: ⁵ "Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Behold, I will

33 THE ASSYRIANS WOULD NOT TAKE, SURROUND, OR COME NEAR JERUSALEM. THE HISTORICAL RECORDS OF SENNACHERIB DO NOT RECORD ANY APPROACH OR BATTLE AT JERUSALEM.

34 THE ASSYRIANS WILL BE FORCED TO RETURN HOME AS THEY CAME.

35 GOD DECLARES THE CITY IS SAFE FROM ASSYRIA BECAUSE HE WILL NOT LET THEM EVEN ATTACK IT.

36 GOD SENDS AN ANGEL TO KILL PART OF THE ASSYRIAN ARMY, THE ARMY AWAKES TO DEAD BODIES.

37 THE KING STOPS HIS CONQUEST AT THIS TIME.

38 HE IS KILLED BY HIS SON. ANOTHER SON TAKES HIS PLACE.

1 ALSO FOUND IN 2 KINGS 20. HERE IS A SHORTER VERSION TO SET UP THE PROPHECIES THAT WILL FOLLOW. WHEN ISAIAH CAME TO THE KING, THE KING WAS ALREADY SICK SO THIS WAS NOT A TOTAL SURPRISE.

2 EVEN THOUGH THIS WAS THE WORD OF GOD DELIVERED THROUGH THE PROPHET HEZEKIAH PRAYED FOR HEALING.

3 HEZEKIAH OVERSTATES HIS FAITHFULNESS, BUT MAY REFER TO WHAT HE HOPED HIS LIFE REPRESENTED. HE HAD OBTAINED GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND DEMONSTRATED A GROWING FAITH.

4 2 KINGS SAYS ISAIAH GOT THE REVISED MESSAGE BEFORE HE EVEN GOT HOME. HERE GOD CHANGES DIRECTION AS AN ANSWER TO DILIGENT PRAYER.

5 THE MESSAGE EVEN TELLS THE KING HE WILL BE GRANTED 15 YRS.

add fifteen years to your life. ⁶I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and will defend this city.

⁷"This shall be the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he has promised: ⁸Behold, I will make the shadow cast by the declining sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps." So the sun turned back on the dial the ten steps by which it had declined.

⁹A writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, after he had been sick and had recovered from his sickness:

¹⁰ I said, In the middle of my days
I must depart;

I am consigned to the gates of Sheol
for the rest of my years.

¹¹ I said, I shall not see the LORD,
the LORD in the land of the living;
I shall look on man no more
among the inhabitants of the world.

¹² My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me
like a shepherd's tent;
like a weaver I have rolled up my life;
he cuts me off from the loom;

from day to night you bring me to an end;
¹³ I calmed myself until morning;
like a lion he breaks all my bones;
from day to night you bring me to an end.

¹⁴ Like a swallow or a crane I chirp;
I moan like a dove.

8) This verse shows this section proceeds chapters 36-37. This was chosen by Hezekiah (2 Kings 20) there are no details to how this happened. It was a miracle that was clearly visible to them.

9) Here is a man who has face death & sickness and knows his recovery comes from God. This does not occur in 2nd Kings. It should be noted that a complete theology of life after death. Jesus will fill in many details followed by Paul.

10) He remembers facing death

11) He was convinced there was no hope.

12) He sees his life as temporary and ending.

13) He waits daybreak but he is consumed with suffering.

14) His strength is gone, all he can do is wait what is coming. He watches for death.

My eyes are weary with looking upward.

O Lord, I am oppressed; be my pledge of safety!

15 What shall I say? For he has spoken to me,
and he himself has done it.

I walk slowly all my years
because of the bitterness of my soul.

16 O Lord, by these things men live,
and in all these is the life of my spirit.

Oh restore me to health and make me live!

17 Behold, it was for my welfare
that I had great bitterness;
but in love you have delivered my life
from the pit of destruction,
for you have cast all my sins
behind your back.

18 For Sheol does not thank you;
death does not praise you;
those who go down to the pit do not hope
for your faithfulness.

19 The living, the living, he thanks you,
as I do this day;
the father makes known to the children
your faithfulness.

20 The LORD will save me,
and we will play my music on stringed
instruments
all the days of our lives,
at the house of the LORD.

15 God sent the 2nd message to HEZEKIAH. He acknowledges the personal message and how he will live the rest of his life. It is possible the bitterness is a reflection of knowing he could have done better. Yet, the meaning is not clear.

16 Here he reflects on what happened. First he prayed for healing when he was assured he would die.

17 There is the life we all share. The normal life lived. But, the King knows God has given him life and forgiveness. This life is only possible because God can remove a man's sins.

18 Here death is seen as a state of hopelessness. Sheol & death are not part of God's original plan but are the darkest of sin.

19 These who live and know God are thankful and teach this to their children.

20 Here the King refers to not dying and getting more time. Because of this he will celebrate. His life will always be related to thanks and praise for the gift of extra life.

²¹ Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a cake of figs and apply it to the boil, that he may recover." ²² Hezekiah also had said, "What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD?"

Envoys from Babylon

39 At that time Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. ² And Hezekiah welcomed them gladly. And he showed them his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his whole armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. ³ Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say? And from where did they come to you?" Hezekiah said, "They have come to me from a far country, from Babylon." ⁴ He said, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house. There is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them."

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 that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says the LORD. ⁷ And some of your own sons, who will come from you, whom you will father, shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon." ⁸ Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD that you have spoken is good." For he thought, "There will be peace and security in my days."

① God allows Isaiah to bring the ointment to heal the King. This physical application links the healing through Isaiah to God.

② 2 Kings 20:5 was the King who was as good as dead would be in the temple of God in 3 days. This is a resurrection shadow of Jesus being dead 3 days. Isaiah saw the 3 days as proof of this being a miracle of God.

③ This was most likely a ploy to see what treasures were in Judah. It was hidden in flattery & the pretext of personal concern.

④ The King takes the bait and shows off or brags about all he has.

⑤ Isaiah confronts Hezekiah.

⑥ The foolishness of his actions are not immediately evident to the King.

⑦-⑧ Isaiah tells the King what his foolish actions will cost him.

① This was a way to humiliate a nation and flaunt their winning or defeating them.

② Here Hezekiah shows a spirit of selfishness, and disregard for his responsibilities. He prayed for his own life but did not pray for the nation he had betrayed. This shallowness is a hallmark of Hezekiah and many leaders. It is not enough to be safe and secure. It is the leader's responsibility to defend and protect the future.

Here God's people will be taken away, the nation defeated, and the prophecy of Isaiah listed here come to fruition. This section ends in darkness and defeat.