##

## **Age Of the Kings**

## **What to remember when you do everything right and face hard opposition.**

## **Hezekiah and his list of reforms:**

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

##  **He destroyed all the idolatry. Even Moses' bronze serpent which they made into an idol**

## ***2Kgs 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.*** (The bronze thing)

## **2. He was committed to God**

## ***2 Kgs 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. 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.***

## **3. He was saved from his enemies as God promised, because he walked righteously** ***Lev 26:3 ‘If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them, 4 then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.***

## ***5 Your threshing shall last till the time of vintage, and the vintage shall last till the time of sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely.***

## ***6 I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid; I will rid the land of evil beasts, and the sword will not go through your land. 7 You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you.***

## ***8 Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight; your enemies shall fall by the sword before you.***

## **The punishments and the blessings; The north is taken captive**

## ***2Kgs 18:9 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. 11 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 His covenant and all that Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded; and they would neither hear nor do them.***

## **So, they were taken away just as God said they would.**

## **Judah on the other hand though threatened, had a good king over them**

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

## **Here comes the wicked pressure**

## **In his 4th year Samaria is attacked**

## **In his 6th year Samaria falls**

## **Then Israel the northern kingdom falls**

## **In his 14th year Assyria is taking over Judah’s strong cities.**

## **Now Jerusalem is threatened.**

## **Note how the enemy attacks**

## **1. Intimidation:**

##  ***2Kgs 18:19 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?***

## **2. Lies and half truths**

## ***2Kgs 18:22 “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’?” ’***

## **3. Short term gain long term pain**

## ***2Kgs 18:23 “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!***

## ***2Kgs 18:31 “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.”33 ‘Has any of the gods of the nations at all delivered its land from the hand of the king of Assyria?***

## **And the answer is, none of them, but they are all false gods and Assyria is now about to do battle with the Lord GOD ALMIGHTY!**

## **The enemy will always try to scare and intimidate you, but God always says…**

## ***2Kgs 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.***

## **Hezekiah’s prayer: *2 Kgs 19:15-19***

## **God’s answer to Assyria! 2 Kings 19:27-28**

## **32-34.**

## **The result:**

## ***2Kgs 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.***

## ***36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh.37 Now it came to pass, 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 in his place.***

## **The end of the threat and the sands of time have buried those frightful leaders along with their empire.**

## **Where is Israel Today?**

## **Where is God?**