HEZEKIAH AND THE ASSYRIANS, ACT 2: HEZEKIAH PRAYS (2 Kings 19:1-19)

I. Seeks INTERVENTION from Isaiah (2 Kings 19:1-5)

- A. Hezekiah went to the TEMPLE in MOURNING
- B. He sent a DELEGATION to ask ISAIAH for PRAYER
 - 1. Called it a "day of DISTRESS, REBUKE, and REJECTION"
 - 2. Admits he is HELPLESS to DEFEND the capital
 - 3. Yet the Assyrians have REPROACHED the LIVING God
 - 4. Asks Isaiah to PRAY for the REMNANT that is left

II. Receives ENCOURAGMENT from Isaiah (2 Kings 19:6-7)

- A. "Do not be AFRAID of their BLASPHEMY"
- B. "I will make him hear a rumor which will cause him to WITHDRAW, and he will DIE in his HOMELAND"

III. Provokes More THREATS from Rabshakeh (2 Kings 19:8-13)

- A. Sennacharib had moved to REINFORCE the siege at Libna
- B. Tirhakah, king of CUSH/ETHIOPIA, was moving against the ASSYRIANS
- C. Sennacharib restated his THREATS and BLASPHEMIES
 - 1. "Don't let your God DECEIVE you"

- 2. "Assyria has destroyed ALL THE LANDS, and you can't ESCAPE"
- 3. "The GODS of the nations are POWERLESS against me"
- 4. "The KINGS who stood against me have been EXECUTED"

IV. Trusts the NATION to GOD'S Protection (2 Kings 19:14-19)

- A. *Disclosure*: SILENTLY admitted his HELPLESSNESS (v. 14)
- B. Invocation: Acknowledged God's GREATNESS (v. 15)
 - 1. Approaches a God of INTENSE PRESENCE
 - 2. Approaches a God of SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY
 - 3. Approaches a God of UNLIMITED POWER
- C. *Complaint*: Asked for God's ATTENTION (vv. 16-18)
 - 1. Sennacharib's claims are TRUE concerning the destruction of the NATIONS
 - 2. Sennacharib is DECEIVED concerning the destruction of their GODS
- D. Supplication: Asked for God's HELP (v. 19)
 - 1. "DELIVER us from his hand"
 - 2. "Prove to all the kingdoms of the earth that YOU ALONE ARE GOD"

V. Lessons

A. Even with a promise of DELIVERANCE, we may have to live a long time in DISTRESS

- B. Our DECISIONS will be based on our THEOLOGY
- C. Speaking truth ABOUT God TO God helps make us CONFIDENT in God