

2 Chronicles 32 — “Sennacherib’s Invasion: In Trouble, Hezekiah Trusts God & Receives the Awesome Victory!”**Introduction****Why does God bring trials?**

- ◆to HUMBLE us of our pride
- ◆to EMPTY us of our self-confidence
- ◆to MOLD us like the Man of Sorrows
- ◆to WEAN us off the present world
- ◆to USE us in evangelizing thru suffering
- ◆to DRIVE us to persistent praying
- ◆to MATURE us to greater strength & usefulness

Background to 2 Chronicles 32 — Sennacherib’s Invasion**2 Chronicles 29-32 - Hezekiah (4-part series)**

1. 2 Chron 29 - Reformation = Pure Worship! -->restore worship!
2. 2 Chron 30 - Passover = Biblical Worship! --> behold the Lamb!
3. 2 Chron 31 - Reformation = Pure Worship! -->destroy idols/be faithful!
4. **2 Chron 32 - Invasion = Divine Deliverance! --> catastrophic problem!!**

Hezekiah is a godly leader in a very dark time; Judah has been very godless, idolatrous & sinful. Meanwhile, God was raising up the Assyrian empire. **Assyria** was the cruelest of all empires in the ancient world. Their goal was to squeeze as much tribute as possible out of their victims. If captive nations did not comply, they would inflict major damage on them, massacre them, exile them & expand their kingdom. Like ISIS on steroids!

THESIS — From this chapter, see the glory of God’s faithfulness & the power of God’s deliverance!

I. REMAIN CALM & CONFIDENT WHEN HARDSHIP STRIKES! (1-23)

The **invasion** (vv.1-8)

The **interrogation** (vv.9-19)

SENNACHERIB’S INSULTS // INTERROGATION (vv9-19)

Sennacherib sent servants to Jerusalem while he was warring at Lachish (30 miles Southwest of Jerusalem)

1. v.10 - what are you trusting in?
2. v.11 - Hezekiah is misleading you
3. v.13 - what has Sennacherib done to all the peoples and lands?
4. v.14 - what other god/nation could deliver them from Sennacherib? (14)
5. v.15 - do not let Hezekiah deceive you to trust in him (15)
6. v.16 - spoke AGAINST THE LORD GOD [*alluding to Psalm 2:2* – they speak against the LORD and against his anointed]
7. v.17 - wrote letters to INSULT the Lord God & v.19 - they spoke of God AS the gods of the peoples of the earth!

The **intercession** (v.20)

The **intervention** (v.21)

John Knox once said: A man with God is always in the majority!

II. CHECK YOUR HEART & SLAY PRIDE & GIVE THANKS! (24-33)

- Not even the godliest of men are immune from pride.
- Rom 12.16 - “do not be haughty in mind”!

Hezekiah’s **illness**, his **exaltedness** [pride], and his **lowliness** [repentance] (vv.24-26)

Why did Hezekiah elevate his heart in pride?

Perhaps because of the accomplishments listed in vv.27-31 —

1. wealth and honor
2. built storage facilities
3. agricultural settlements & many villages
4. he rerouted the city’s water supply from Gihon spring to the West Side

“Hezekiah’s Tunnel” was dug thru solid rock from the Gihon Spring to the Pool of Siloam, a distance of 1,777 feet with workmen digging from each end and meeting in the middle -- a remarkable accomplishment!

6. Succeeded in many other undertakings

Hezekiah’s **successes** (vv.27-33)

God often tests His people to refine and grow them to increase their devotion to Him!

- Ex 20.20 - God has come to “**test** you” – that you may fear him and not sin.
- Deut 8.16 - God **tested** his people in the wilderness and to HUMBLE and TEST them TO DO THEM GOOD in the end.
- Gen 22.1 - God **tested** Abram – go sacrifice your son [Heb 11.17 – Abraham was **tested**]
- 1 Pet 1.7 - our faith is **tested** “even though with fire” – faith which is precious than gold.
- Rev 2.10 - God **tests** us – hard and painful – but be faithful and God gives the crown of life!

2 Chronicles 32 — “Sennacherib’s Invasion: In Trouble, Hezekiah Trusts God & Receives the Awesome Victory!”**Mark it!**

• THIS ACCOUNT IS A SOBERING PICTURE OF ALL WHO REBEL AGAINST GOD, MOCK HIS JUSTICE, REJECT HIS GRACE, SCORN HIS PATIENCE, BLASPHEME HIS HOLINESS AND REMAIN IN UNBELIEF.

- There was another **KING** who received many taunts just like Hezekiah --He was the Lord Jesus Christ!

“Be strong and courageous, do not fear or be dismayed because of the king of Assyria nor because of all the horde that is with him; for the one with us is greater than the one with him. With him is only an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles.”

– 2 Chronicles 32:7-8

We see much of “headlines” in our day. Consider some of the “headlines” of Hezekiah’s kingship in Judah:

1. Hezekiah opened the doors of the temple (29:3) = worship God!
2. Hezekiah said: “I will make a covenant with the LORD” (29:10) = back to the main, priorities, stay biblical!
3. Return to the LORD the God of Israel that he may return to you! (30:1, 6) (repent of your sin!)
4. Come and let’s keep the Lord’s Passover (30:1) (we need blood-shed for our atonement; behold the Lamb!)
5. Hezekiah prayed for them (30:18) — what a powerful petition and intercessor
6. Hezekiah sought his God and worked wholeheartedly (31:21) — what a man who sought God aggressively & passionately.
7. The LORD saved Hezekiah and the people of Jerusalem (32:22) — a faithful God delivers His people by HIS powerful might
8. God took care of them on every side (32:22b) — God took care of his people from ALL invaders.

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken, by John Newton (music by Franz Haydn, 18th century):

*Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.
He whose Word cannot be broken
formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.*

*See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver,
never fails from age to age.*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory, great things he hath done;
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

The splendor of a king
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light,
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
Trembles at His voice

*How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see
How great, how great is our God*

Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end
Beginning and the end
The Godhead Three in One
Father, Spirit and Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

*Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God*

*The most beautiful instrument in any Christian service is the sound of the congregation singing.
– Jonathan Leeman*