### 2 Chronicles

## Chapter 32

[Editor note: By this point, the northern 10-tribe Kingdom of IsraEl had been previously destroyed by the Assyrians 10 years earlier, with its people deported to other parts of the Assyrian Empire. The details are covered in 2 Kings chapters 17 and 18.]  
  
1Well, when word of this was spread, the things that were happening there came to the attention of SenNacherIb, the king of Assyria... So he marched into Judah and camped around its walled cities, as he talked about conquering them!  
  
2Then when HezekiAh saw that SenNacherIb had arrived and that he intended to wage a war with JeruSalem, 3he met with his councilors and generals and discussed ways to stop up the springs and streams that were outside of the city wall… And they vigorously assisted him in doing this.  
  
4So he recruited a large number of people and stopped up the waters of the springs, as well as the river that runs [in front] of the city.  
  
For they asked:  
  
 ‘Should the king of Assyria be able to find a lot of water and grow strong?’  
  
5Then HezekiAh strengthened his position by rebuilding all the walls that had been torn down and all the battle towers. In fact, he built a perimeter wall all the way around the city wall!  
  
He also strengthened the citadel in the City of David, and he made many other preparations... 6Then he declared Marshall Law, and he gathered all his military leaders in the square at the gate that leads into the valley, and he spoke to their hearts, saying:  
  
 7‘Be manly and strong!  
  
 ‘Don’t allow the king of Assyria or any of those nations that are marching with him to frighten or terrify you, because there are more with us than there are with him!  
  
 8‘For while those who are with him have arms of flesh, we have our God Jehovah to save us and to fight our battles!’  
  
Well, the words of HezekiAh the king of Judah inspired confidence in the people.  
  
  
9But then SenNacherIb (the king of Assyria) sent his personal servant to JeruSalem (while he was marching on [the city of] LachIsh with his entire army), who spoke to HezekiAh and to all the Judeans that were gathered in JeruSalem, saying:  
  
 10‘This is what SenNacherIb, the king of the Assyrians, has said:  
  
 ‘What are you people relying on that you’ve all [fled] to the stronghold of JeruSalem?  
  
 11‘Has HezekiAh deceived you into thinking that he can save you from hunger, thirst, and death by telling you that your God Jehovah will save you from the hands of the king of Assyria? 12For, isn’t this the same HezekiAh that tore down His altars and high places of worship, and said to Judah and to those who live in JeruSalem:  
  
 ‘Now bow before this Altar, and here is where you should burn incense?’  
  
 13‘Don’t you know what my ancestors and I have done to similar peoples?  
  
 ‘For none of the gods of any of the other nations on the earth have been able to save their peoples from my hands! 14Which of any of the gods of these nations that my ancestors and I destroyed were able to rescue their people from my hands, and how can your God save you from my hands?  
  
 15‘Now, don’t allow HezekiAh to fool you and persuade you to do what he says… Don’t trust him! For there’s no way that any god of any nation or kingdom has been able to save his people from my hands… And there’s no way that your God will save you from my hands!’  
  
16Well, he just kept on speaking against Jehovah God and His servant HezekiAh.  
  
17[SenNacherIb] also wrote a letter to berate Jehovah, the God of IsraEl, that said concerning Him:  
  
 ‘No other god of any nation on earth has rescued his people from my hands, so there’s no way that the God of HezekiAh will save his people from me!’  
  
18Then [the envoy] yelled in the Jewish language to the people of JeruSalem who were manning the walls, telling them to tear down the walls so that he could just take the city... 19And he [again] spoke against the God of JeruSalem, as well as against all the gods of the rest of the peoples of the earth (those who men made with their hands).  
  
20Well, King HezekiAh and the Prophet IsaiAh (son of Amoz) prayed about these things, calling into the heavens... 21Then Jehovah sent a messenger who wiped out all the mighty warriors, all the rulers, and all the leaders in the camp of the king of Assyria, forcing [SenNacherIb] to return to his own land in shame!  
  
And when he went to the temple of his god, those who came from his own belly overthrew him, [murdering] him with a broadsword.  
  
  
22So Jehovah saved HezekiAh and the people who were living in JeruSalem from the hands of SenNacherIb the king of Assyria (as well as all those who were with him), and He provided a period of rest throughout the land.  
  
23And thereafter, many people brought gifts to Jehovah in JeruSalem, and they brought presents to HezekiAh, the king of Judah. For after that, he became highly respected by all the surrounding nations.  
  
  
24However, sometime later, HezekiAh became ill to the point of dying... So he prayed to Jehovah, and God heard him and gave him a sign.  
  
25But after that, HezekiAh failed to deal with [Jehovah] in the same way that [God] had dealt with him; for he became proud in his heart, which brought [God’s] anger upon Judah and JeruSalem.  
  
26As a result, He started to humble the proud hearts of HezekiAh and those who lived in JeruSalem.  
  
However, thereafter, Jehovah’s anger didn’t come again to HezekiAh throughout the rest of his days. 27So HezekiAh became very rich and famous. He filled his treasuries with silver, gold, precious gems, aromatics, weapons, and all sorts of desirable things. 28His cities had all types of produce, grain, wine, and olive oil; and his towns had stables for all sorts of animals and huge pens for the flocks [of sheep].  
  
29Then he built cities for himself, and he came to own vast herds of sheep and oxen; for [Jehovah was blessing] all of his holdings.  
  
30It was HezekiAh who had blocked up the upper [spring] of GiHon and rerouted it to the south of the city of David… And all of HezekiAh’s projects prospered.  
  
  
31Then ambassadors came to him from the rulers of Babylon to ask about the miracles that had taken place in his land; and that’s when Jehovah left [HezekiAh], as a test, to find out what was really in his heart.  
  
32{Look!} All of the rest of the things that HezekiAh said (and of his mercy) are written about in the prophecies of IsaiAh (son of Amoz) the Prophet, and in the scrolls of the kings of Judah and IsraEl.  
  
33Then HezekiAh went to sleep with his ancestors and they buried him in the tomb that’s along the road that leads up to the tombs of the sons of David. And all the people of Judah and those living in JeruSalem showed him great honor after he died.  
  
Thereafter, his son ManasSeh started reigning in his place.