### 2 Kings

## Chapter 19

1Well, as King HezekiAh listened to this, he tore off his clothes and dressed himself in sackcloth; then he went to the Temple of Jehovah.   
  
2He also had his right-hand-man EliAkim, SomNas the scribe, and the elders among the Priests put on sackcloth, and he sent them to see the Prophet IsaiAh (son of Amos) 3with the message:  
  
 ‘HezekiAh [wants us to tell you that] today is a day of oppression, scolding, and rage, for even sons who can’t give birth are now experiencing ‘birth pangs!’  
  
 4‘So if your God Jehovah has heard everything that RapSakes –this man sent by his lord the king of Assyria– said to berate the living God and to blaspheme Him... If He has heard all that was said, then pray to your God on behalf of the few of us that remain here!’  
  
5So the servants of King HezekiAh went to IsaiAh, 6and IsaiAh said this to them:  
  
 ‘Go back and tell your lord that this is what Jehovah said:  
  
 ‘Don’t be afraid of the words that you heard and the blasphemies of the servants of the king of Assyria.  
  
 7‘For {Look!} I will just blow [My] Breath, and [the king of Assyria] will receive a message and return to his own land... Thereafter, I will cut him down with a sword in his own country!’  
  
  
8Meanwhile, when RapSakes returned to the king of Assyria, he found that he was no longer at LachIsh, for he’d gone to wage war against LobNa, 9because he’d heard that King TharHaka of the Ethiopians had declared that he was coming to fight him.  
  
But when [the king of Assyria] got back [to LachIsh], he sent messengers to HezekiAh to tell him this:  
  
 10‘Don’t allow the God whom you’re relying on to encourage you… [don’t believe Him] if He says that JeruSalem won’t be given into the hands of the king of Assyria!  
  
 11‘{Look!} Since you’ve heard of all the things that the king of Assyria has done and of all the lands that he’s destroyed, how can you believe that you’ll be saved?  
  
 12‘Have any of the gods of the nations that were destroyed by me or by my ancestors been able to save them… Such as those in:  
  
 • Gozan,  
 • Harran,  
 • Raphis,  
 • The sons of Edem, or  
 • The people of ThaEsthen.  
  
 13‘Yes, where are the kings of HaMath and ArPhad, and where is the king of SepharVaim, or [the kings] of Ana and Aba?’  
  
14Well, after HezekiAh took the letter from the hands of the messengers and read it, he went to the Temple of Jehovah and unrolled it there before Jehovah.  
  
15Then he prayed:  
  
 ‘O Jehovah the God of IsraEl,  
  
 ‘The One who’s resting on cherubs,  
  
 ‘You alone are the God of all the kingdoms of the earth and the One who made the skies and the lands.  
  
 16‘So, O Jehovah,  
  
 ‘Turn Your ears to me and listen!  
  
 ‘O Jehovah,  
  
 ‘Open Your eyes and Look… [read] the words that SenNacherIb sent to berate the living God!  
  
 17‘For it was really You, O Jehovah, who allowed the kings of Assyria to destroy all those nations, 18and You’re the One who had their gods thrown into the fires, since they really aren’t gods, they’re just things that men made with their hands out of wood and stone, which will soon just rot away.  
  
 19‘So now, O Jehovah our God,  
  
 ‘Please save us from his hands, so that all the kingdoms of the earth will know that You – Jehovah – are the only [true] God.’  
  
20And thereafter, IsaiAh (son of Amos) sent a message to HezekiAh that said:  
  
 ‘Jehovah the God of armies and the God of IsraEl told me that He heard what you said to Him in your prayer concerning King SenNacherIb of Assyria... 21And Jehovah spoke these words against him:  
  
 ‘The daughters of JeruSalem will be shaking their heads at you who would treat the virgin daughters of Zion with contempt and sneer at them!  
  
 22‘For who is it that you berated?  
  
 ‘And who is it that you’ve blasphemed?  
  
 ‘Yes, against whom have you raised your voice and put yourself higher in your own eyes?  
  
 ‘You did this against the Holy One of IsraEl!  
  
 23‘You sent your messengers to berate Jehovah!  
  
 ‘Then you dared to say:  
  
 ‘I’ve ridden my chariot to the tops of the mountains of the the borders of Lebanon, and I’ve cut down their great cedars (their best ones)! Then I rode among the forests of CarMel!  
  
 24‘There I cooled myself and drank from their alien waters, as I destroyed all the moats around their city walls with the soles of my feet!  
  
 25‘Then I reshaped and moved things… In my pride I took all those combative peoples away from their fortified cities! 26Yes, by my own hand I made the peoples that lived there weak!  
  
 ‘Then I shocked and disgraced them, and they became like grass in the fields… Like green hay or like young shoots that grow on roofs, which are easily trampled by people walking on them!’  
  
 27‘[However, Jehovah has said this to you]:  
  
 ‘I know when you sit down,  
 I know where you are going,  
 And I know of your rage against Me!  
  
 28‘So it’s because of your rage against Me that the things you’ve been doing have reached My ears... Therefore, I’m now going to put My hooks in your nose and My bit between your lips, then I’m going to turn you around and send you back by the same way that you came!’  
  
  
29[And after that, IsaiAh told HezekiAh]:  
  
 ‘This will be your sign:  
  
 ‘This year you must eat the things that grow on their own and everything that grows on its own next year also. But in the 3rd year, you will again sow seeds, harvest, and plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
  
 30‘Then [Jehovah] will increase those of the house of Judah who’ve escaped... Yes, the left-over ‘root’ beneath the ground, will produce ‘fruit’ above it!  
  
 31‘[Jehovah says:]  
  
 ‘For a remnant will come out of JeruSalem,  
 And a savior will come from Mount Zion  
 Through the zeal of Jehovah of armies.  
  
 32‘So, this is Jehovah’s reply to the king of Assyria:  
  
 ‘You won’t enter this city,’ says Jehovah…  
  
 ‘You won’t even shoot an arrow here! So, no one will have to lift a shield, because you won’t be pouring any dirt to build a siege mound around this city!  
  
 33‘And thereafter, you will return by the same way that you came,’ says Jehovah.  
  
 ‘No, you won’t enter this city, 34for I will put a shield around it and save it because of Myself and because of My servant David!’  
  
35And that’s what happened.  
  
  
During the night, a [spirit] messenger of Jehovah came and destroyed the camp of the Assyrians, killing 185,000 of their men!  
  
So when [the people of JeruSalem] got up the next morning, {Look!} all [they found] was dead bodies.  
  
  
36And after that, King SenNacherIb of Assyria did, in fact, go back to his home in Nineveh. 37Then one day, while he was bowing in the temple of his god MeserAk, his sons AdraMelek and SarAsar killed him with swords and fled to the land of Ararat!  
  
Then his son AsorDan started ruling in place of him.