

2 Chronicles 32:1-23 **Sennacherib's Arrogant Challenge, Defeat and Death**

Sennacherib Boasts Against the Lord (2 Kings 18:13-19:34; Isaiah 36:1-21, 37:1-37)

1 After these deeds of faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and entered Judah; he encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them over to himself.

2 And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that his purpose was to make war against Jerusalem,

3 he consulted with his leaders and commanders to stop the water from the springs which were outside the city; and they helped him.

4 Thus many people gathered together who stopped all the springs and the brook that ran through the land, saying, "Why should the kings of Assyria come and find much water?"

5 And he strengthened himself, built up all the wall that was broken, raised it up to the towers, and built another wall outside; also he repaired the Millo in the City of David, and made weapons and shields in abundance.

6 Then he set military captains over the people, gathered them together to him in the open square of the city gate, and gave them encouragement, saying,

7 "Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him; for there are more with us than with him.

8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is Yahweh Eloheynov (the Lord our God), to help us and to fight our battles." And the people were strengthened by the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

9 After this Sennacherib king of Assyria sent his servants to Jerusalem (but he and all the forces with him laid siege against Lachish), to Hezekiah king of Judah, and to all Judah who were in Jerusalem, saying,

10 "Thus says Sennacherib king of Assyria: 'In what do you trust, that you remain under siege in Jerusalem?

11 Does not Hezekiah persuade you to give yourselves over to die by famine and by thirst, saying, "Yahweh Eloheynov (the Lord our God) will deliver us from the hand of the king of Assyria"?

12 Has not the same Hezekiah taken away His high places and His altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, "You shall worship before one altar and burn incense on it"?

13 Do you not know what I and my fathers have done to all the peoples of other lands? Were the gods of the nations of those lands in any way able to deliver their lands out of my hand?

14 Who was there among all the gods of those nations that my fathers utterly destroyed that could deliver his people from my hand, that Eloheykem (your God) should be able to deliver you from my hand?

15 Now therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or persuade you like this, and do not believe him; for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people from my hand or the hand of my fathers. How much less will Eloheykem (your God) deliver you from my hand?"

16 Furthermore, his servants spoke against Yahweh Elohiym (the Lord God) and against His servant Hezekiah.

17 He also wrote letters to revile Yahweh Elohey Yisrael (the Lord God of Israel), and to speak against Him, saying, "As the gods of the nations of other lands have not delivered their people from my hand, so Elohey (the God of) Hezekiah will not deliver His people from my hand."

18 Then they called out with a loud voice in Hebrew to the people of Jerusalem who were on the

wall, to frighten them and trouble them, that they might take the city.

19 And they spoke against Elohey (the God of) Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth — the work of men's hands.

Sennacherib's Defeat and Death (2 Kings 19:35-37, Isaiah 37:36-38)

20 Now because of this King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, prayed and cried out to heaven.

21 Then Yahweh (the Lord) sent an angel who cut down every mighty man of valor, leader, and captain in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned shamefaced to his own land. And when he had gone into the temple of his god, some of his own offspring struck him down with the sword there.

22 Thus Yahweh (the Lord) saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all others, and guided them on every side.

23 And many brought gifts to Yahweh (the Lord) at Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations thereafter.

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Facts Revealed:

Sennacherib Boasts Against the Lord (2 Kings 18:13-19:34; Isaiah 36:1-21, 37:1-37)

- ✧ Eight years after the Assyrians had carried the northern kingdom of Israel away captive to Assyria, Sennacherib king of Assyria came into Judah and laid siege to the fortified city of Lachish. [2 Chronicles 32:1, 2 Kings 18:13, Isaiah 36:1]
- ✧ Hezekiah knew about it and seeing that they were intending to make war on Jerusalem, he consulted his leaders and commanders and stopped up all the water sources outside the city so the invaders would not have access to water. [2 Chronicles 32:2-4]
- ✧ Then he strengthened the walls and towers of Jerusalem and armed his people. [2 Chronicles 32:5]
- ✧ Hezekiah encouraged the army saying do not fear the Assyrians, with Yahweh to help us there are more with us than with them. They have the arm of flesh, we have the Lord our God to help us. [2 Chronicles 32:6-8]
- ✧ Sennacherib king of Assyria with all his forces laid siege to Lachish, so he sent his servants to Jerusalem to persuade them to surrender and ridiculed Hezekiah and the God of Israel. [2 Chronicles 32:9-11]
- ✧ Sennacherib knew that Hezekiah had purged the land of idolatry to worship Yahweh which he viewed as another idol. [2 Chronicles 32:12]
- ✧ By this time, the Assyrians had conquered all the pagan nations around Judah including the northern kingdom of Israel whose gods were not able to deliver their people at all which only added to his pride and arrogance. [2 Chronicles 32:13-19]

Sennacherib's Defeat and Death (2 Kings 19:35-37, Isaiah 37:36-38)

- ✧ King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah prayed and cried out to heaven. [2 Chronicles 32:20]
- ✧ Yahweh demonstrated that He hears the prayers of righteous men by sending an angel who cut down every mighty man of valor, leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. [2 Chronicles 32:21]
- ✧ Sennacherib, with his entire military forces laying dead, returned to his own land shamefaced. He went into the temple of his god, and some of his own offspring cut him down with the sword. [2 Chronicles 32:21]
- ✧ It is hazardous to ridicule the True and Living God of Creation even today.

- ✧ Thus Yahweh (the Lord) saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all others, and guided them on every side. [[2 Chronicles 32:22](#)]
- ✧ And many brought gifts to Yahweh (the Lord) at Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations thereafter. [[2 Chronicles 32:23](#)]
- ✧ Being exalted in the sight of all nations was the prideful downfall of Hezekiah king of Judah. [[2 Chronicles 32:24-26](#)]