

Lesson 4B: Isaiah 36-39

I. Introduction:

- A. The LORD's future dealings with Assyria predicted through Isaiah
 - It is whistled for (5:26-30, 7:18-20)
 - It oversteps intended bounds (10:5-11)
 - Its end is determined (10:12-19, 14:24-27, 30:30-33, 31:4-9)
 - Confirming narrative of Isaiah 36-37
- B. Contrast of the 2 primary kings of Judah during Isaiah's ministry
 - Ahaz (2 Kg 16, 2 Chron 28)
 - Hezekiah (2 Kg 18:1-8, 2 Chron 29-31)
 - 2 primary narratives in the Book of Isaiah (7-8, 36-39)

II. Assyrian invasion of Judah threatens Jerusalem (chap 36)

- A. Military/geographical observations (2)
 - Lachish (refer to handout)
 - The conduit of the upper pool (compare with 7:3)
- B. The issue of reliance/trust introduced (4-7)
- C. The issue is theological at its roots (18-22)

III. The LORD's responses to Hezekiah for his trust in Him (chap 37)

- A. Hezekiah's prayer request to Isaiah (1-5)
- B. The LORD's response to Hezekiah through Isaiah (6-7)
- C. Hezekiah's prayer to the LORD (14-20)
- D. The LORD's response to Hezekiah through Isaiah concerning Sennacherib's challenge (21-35)
 - "Because you prayed" (21)
 - The Holy One of Israel has been reproached (23-25)
 - Someone greater than Sennacherib (26-29)
 - Favorable outcome foreseen (30-35)
- E. Actual outcome summarized (36-38)

IV. Issues related to Hezekiah's Illness (38-39)

- A. Introductory concerns for this section:
 - Parallel accounts in 2 Kg 20; 2 Chron 32:24-31
 - A good king with feet of clay
- B. Hezekiah's illness and prayer (38:1-3)
- C. The LORD's response through Isaiah (38:4-8)
- D. Hezekiah's psalm of reflection (38:9-20)
- E. Visit of the Babylonian emissaries (39:1-2)
- F. The LORD's response through Isaiah (39:3-7)
- G. Hezekiah's response (39:8)

V. Principles raised in Isaiah 1-39 for those of Isaiah's day and in any age:

- A. The LORD God of Israel is the one true God who is ultimately worthy of trust by the inhabitants of Judah/Jerusalem and by all peoples throughout the earth.
- B. The LORD is high and lifted up. Prideful man, though he tries to attain to this position, is not designed for such status.
- C. Objects of misdirected trust will eventually destroy rather than help the one trusting in them.
- D. Without the LORD's intervention, individuals and nations of the world are candidates for His righteous judgment.
- E. There is deliverance for those who will place their trust in the LORD's appointed and unique Davidic heir who will come on the earth's scene as a child and who will rule the world.
- F. Zion is the place where the LORD and His redeemed people dwell together forever in harmony. It is the intended destiny for all who will entrust their lives entirely to His deliverance and care.
- G. The people of God should not be clothed in a religious 'vener'. Rather, they should provide society with the very best examples of integrity, justice, purity and heart-felt trust/confidence in the Living God. This is the work of God's Spirit through repentant, forgiven, and yielded lives.