

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

II KINGS 19

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The Assyrians, now led by Sennacherib, have their sites on the Kingdom of Judah and Jerusalem, its capital. At the close of Chapter 18, a letter has been sent and read out loud by the Commander in Chief, and entourage to the King and his servants guarding the city of Jerusalem. The letter contained words of slander and contempt for the God of Judah and King Hezekiah, and what would be to the city and its inhabitants

Chapter 19 opens with the leaders of Judah presenting themselves and the threats of the Assyrians to King Hezekiah, with their clothes torn as a sign of the severe nature of this crisis and confrontation by a strong foreign power. Hezekiah heard the warnings and immediately tore his clothes off and put on sackcloth, the clothes of death, catastrophe, grief, and repentance. He went to the House of the LORD, the temple. Hezekiah immediately sent word to the court prophet, Isaiah, to pray for the King, all the remnant left in Judah, that God would deliver the nation once again. The reply was swift from the great prophet of God, He said, **"Tell your master that this is what the LORD**

says: 'Do not be afraid of the words you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. Behold, I will put a spirit in him so that he will hear a rumor and return to his own land, where I will cause him to fall by the sword.'" (II Kings 19:5-7)

Next, another threatening letter was sent by the Commander in Chief of the Assyrians to King Hezekiah urging him not to trust in his God to deliver him, as that had not worked for the Northern Kingdom of Israel. This time, Hezekiah took the letter and went into the House of God and laid the letter out for God to see as a visual. The king then prayed and asked God to save the nation from the looming disaster of the Assyrians. God heard his prayer and sent word by Isaiah, saying, **"Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib King of Assyria, I have heard."** (II Kings 19:20)

Prayer and Action Steps

God heard the prayer of godly King Hezekiah and turned back the Assyrian army and Sennacherib was killed by his own officers. God hears us when we pray. Prayer should be our first resort, not our last.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
