



Talk 1 – the Great Reformer

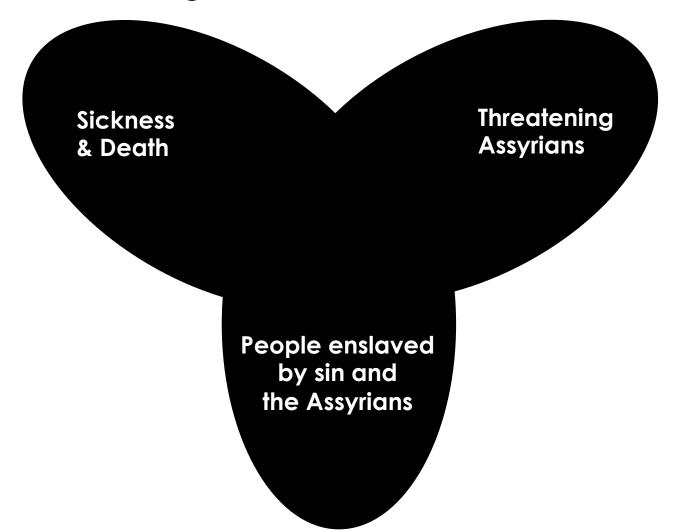


Talk 2 – the Great Leader

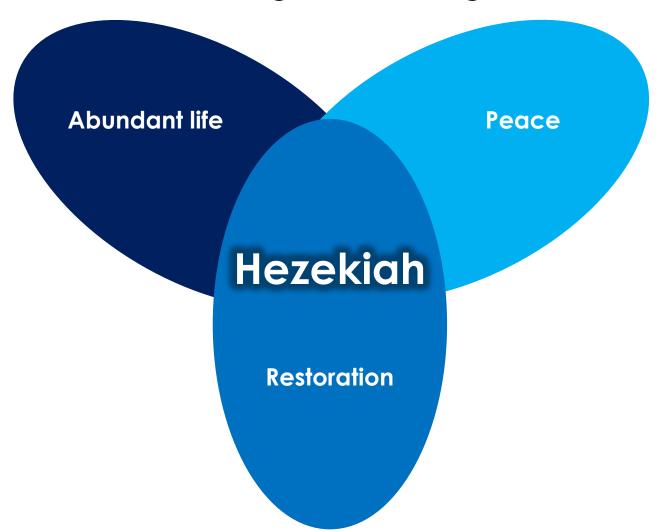


Talk 3 – the Great Repenter

Lifting of the three great shadows



Replacement with three great blessings



Isaiah 37

30 And this shall be a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such as groweth of itself; and the second year that which springeth of the same: and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit thereof.

ABUNDANT LIFE A Year of Jubilee

"And if ye shall say. What shall we eat the seventh year? Behold, we shall not sow, nor gather our increase: then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years" (Leviticus 25:20,21)



Isaiah 37

31 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward:

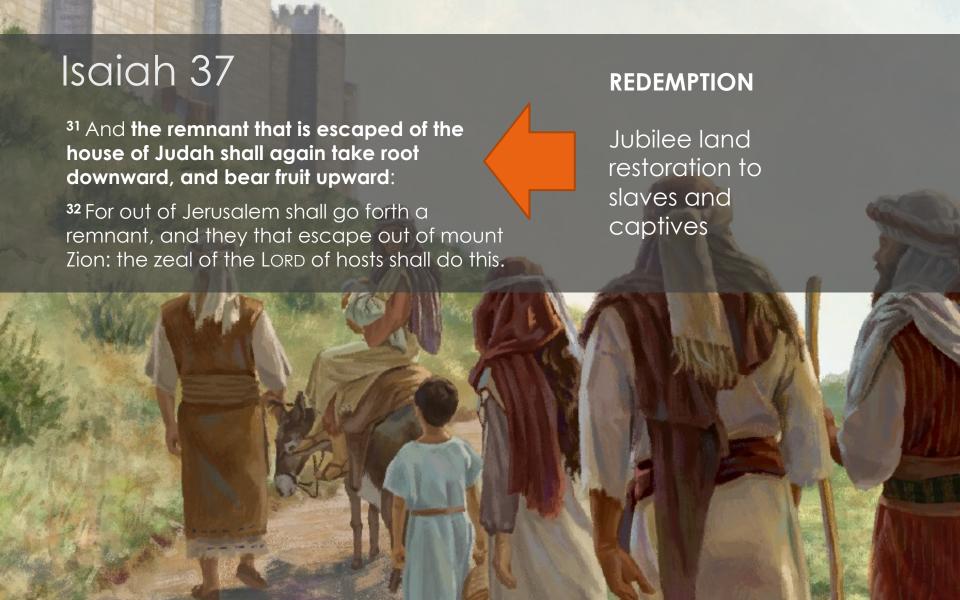
32 For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD of hosts shall do this.

ABUNDANT LIFE

Jubilee land restoration to true owners







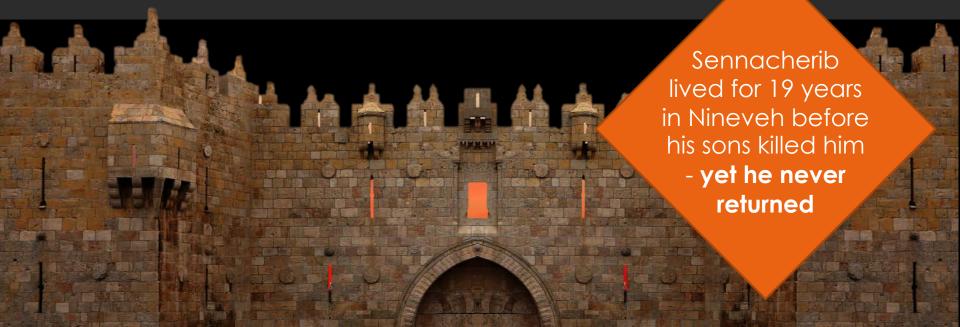
Isaiah 37

33 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning **the king of Assyria**, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.

³⁴ By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

PEACE

Sennacherib would leave and never return



How did Hezekiah respond?

he praises
God in his
special psalm
recorded in
Isaiah 38



he makes a pledge to Yahweh for the rest of his days

Imagine the service of praise with Psalms such as 46,47,48,75,83,87,102,116,118,125,126...



The Songs of Degrees

Hezekiah	Songs of Degrees
Received 15 extra years (2 Kings 20:6; Isa. 38:5)	A total of 15 psalms
Shadow moved backward 10 degrees (2 Kings 20:8-11; Isa. 38:8)	10 psalms by an anonymous psalmist – Hezekiah himself (?) another 4 by David and 1 by Solomon

The Songs of Degrees

The Five-fold Structure of the Songs of Degrees	Reference to the days of Hezekiah
1. The cycle of national Israel in exile (Psalm 120-122)	The prayers of many Jews already in captivity by the Assyrian hand. At the wondrous overthrow of Sennacherib's host a remnant returned to Judah.
2. The cycle of servant Israel under siege (Psalm 123-125)	The contempt and blasphemy of Rabshakeh and the faith of Hezekiah under siege in Jerusalem.
3 . The cycle of the family in Israel (Psalm 126-128)	Hezekiah's prayer for prolonging of days to beget seed to continue David's line – realised in the birth of Manasseh.
4. The cycle of the individual in Israel (Psalm 129-131)	Personal wrestlings of Hezekiah with the prospect of an early death, and with his own sins.
5. The cycle of the ecclesia in Israel (Psalm 132-134)	The unity of a northern and a southern remnant, joined together by Hezekiah, praising the Lord in His sanctuary after the danger is past.

A further glimpse into Hezekiah's state of mind...



Peace and Prosperity

As in the siege, their bread and water were sure (Isaiah 33:16)

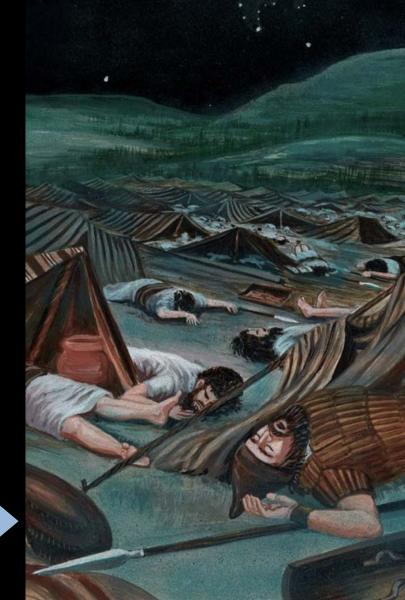


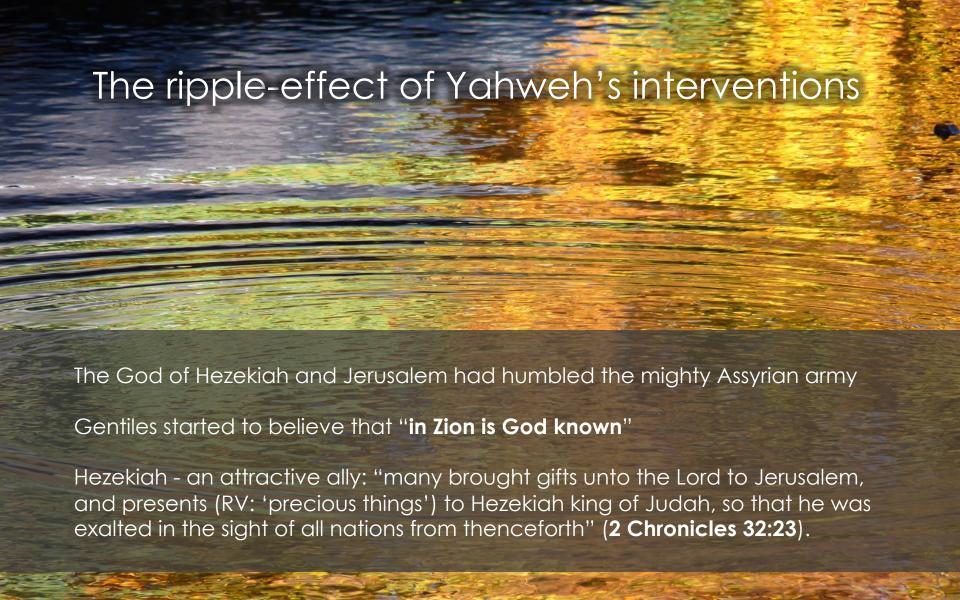
Isaiah 33:1, 4

Woe to thee that spoilest, and thou wast not spoiled; and dealest treacherously, and they dealt not treacherously with thee! when thou shalt cease to spoil, thou shalt be spoiled...

And your spoil shall be gathered like the gathering of the caterpiller: as the running to and fro of **locusts** shall **he** run upon them.

plunder of Assyrians by people of Jerusalem





Hezekiah became the king to be feared and courted



Isaiah 49:7,22,23

Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful ... Behold I will lift up mine hand unto the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people ... And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth.

Psalm 76:5,6,11

The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands. At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.

THEREFORE:

Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.

Isaiah 60 speaks of the Kingdom, but the imagery used had its **primary application** in this time of Hezekiah's reign.



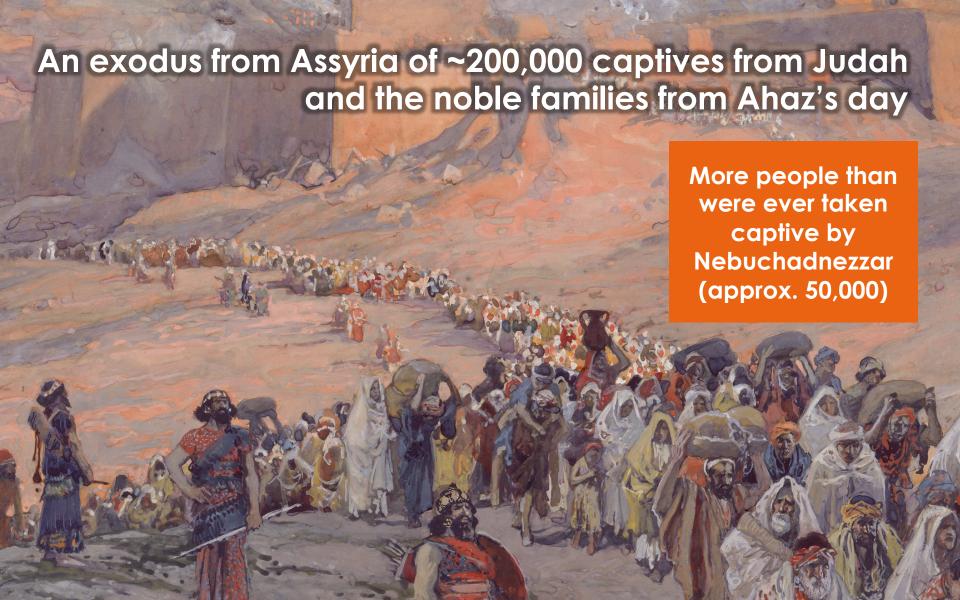


A wine storehouse of Hezekiah



2 Chronicles 32:27-29

Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honour and he made himself treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices and for shields, and for all manner of instruments of desire (musical?). Storehouses also for the increase of corn, and wine, and oil and stalls for all manner of beasts and flocks. Moreover he provided him cities, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance for God had given him very much substance.





Isaiah 11:12,16

He shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth ... And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the Land of Egypt.

Isaiah 27:13

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet (the Jubilee: Leviticus 25:9) shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria ... and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount of Jerusalem.



Isaiah 35:8,10

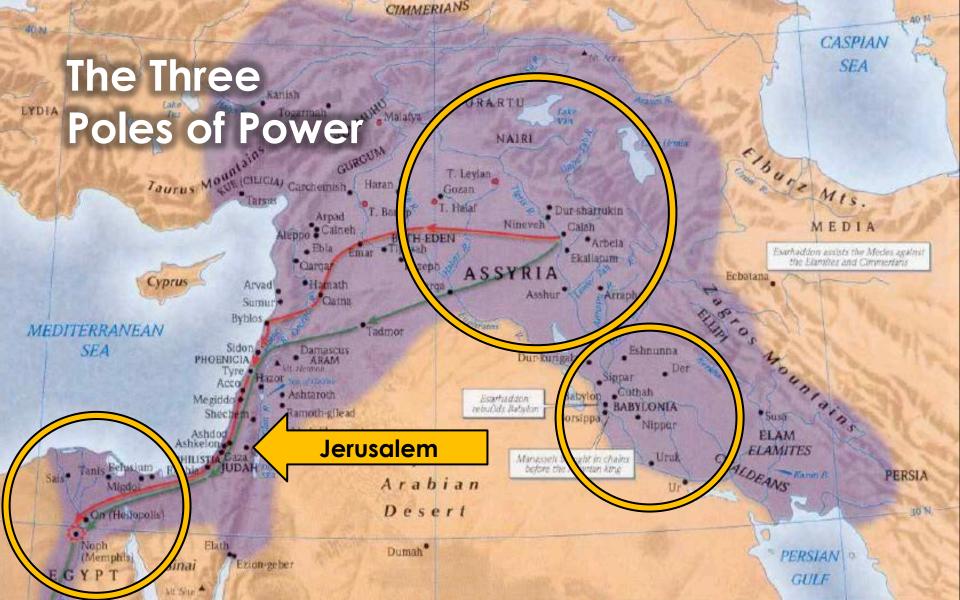
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away...

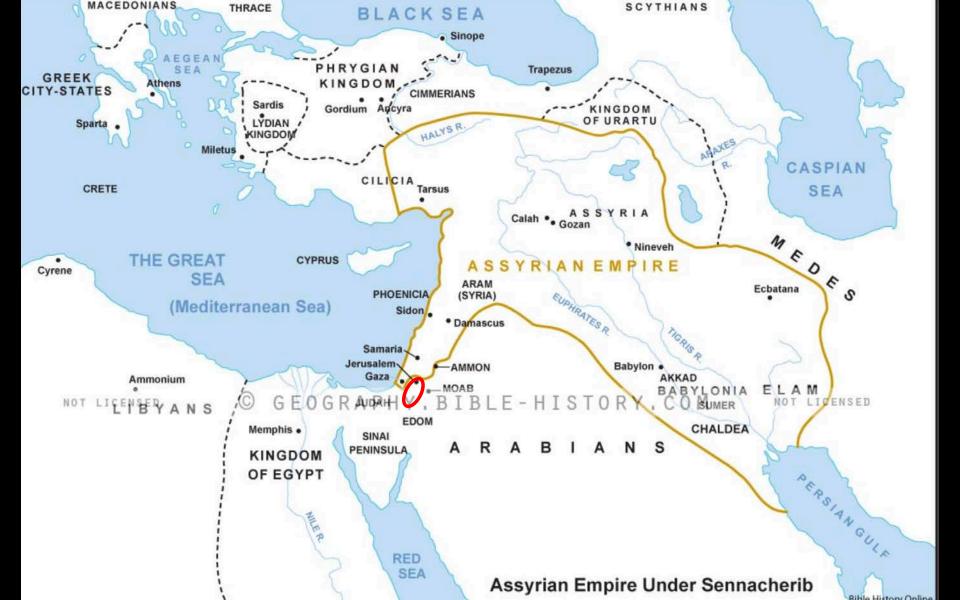
And then Hezekiah married and the heir was born

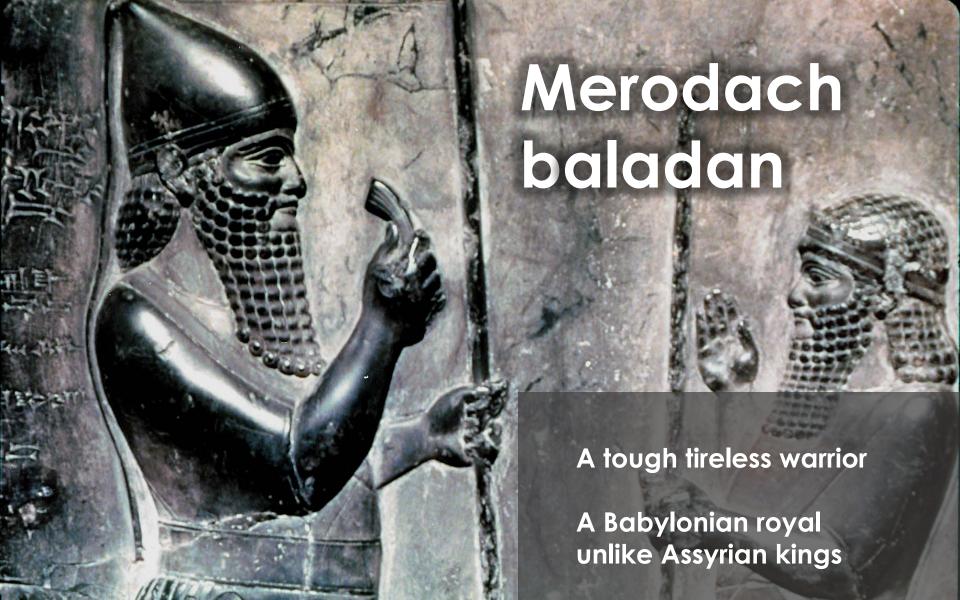




...but then came TESTING









2 Kings 20:12

At that time Merodach baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

2 Chronicles 32:31

and to enquire of the wonder that was done in the land (sundial)

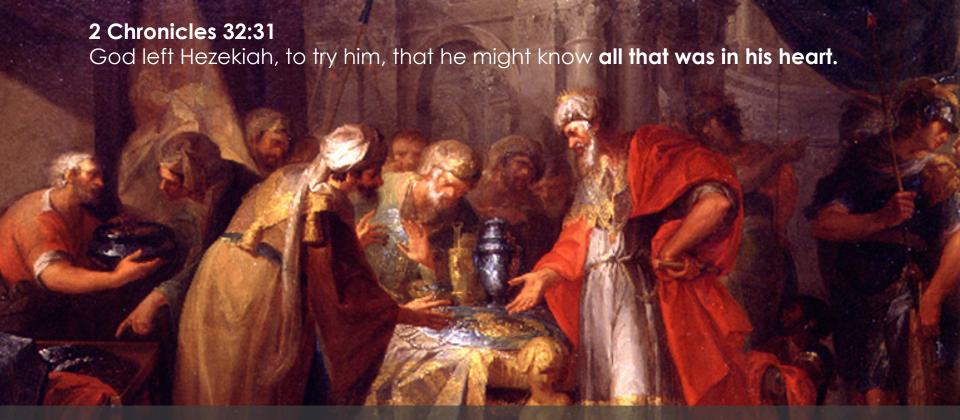


Really?

...And Hezekiah hearkened unto them

Deuteronomy 16:19

...a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous.



2 Kings 20:13

And Hezekiah... shewed them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

a weak friend was able to accomplish that which was impossible for a powerful foe

I hate pride and arrogance Proverbs 8:13

2 Chronicles 32:25

But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon Judah and Jerusalem.

Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. Psalm 146:3



All the things that are in mine house have they seen (v15)

What **said** these men? and **from whence** came they unto thee? (2 Kings 20:14)

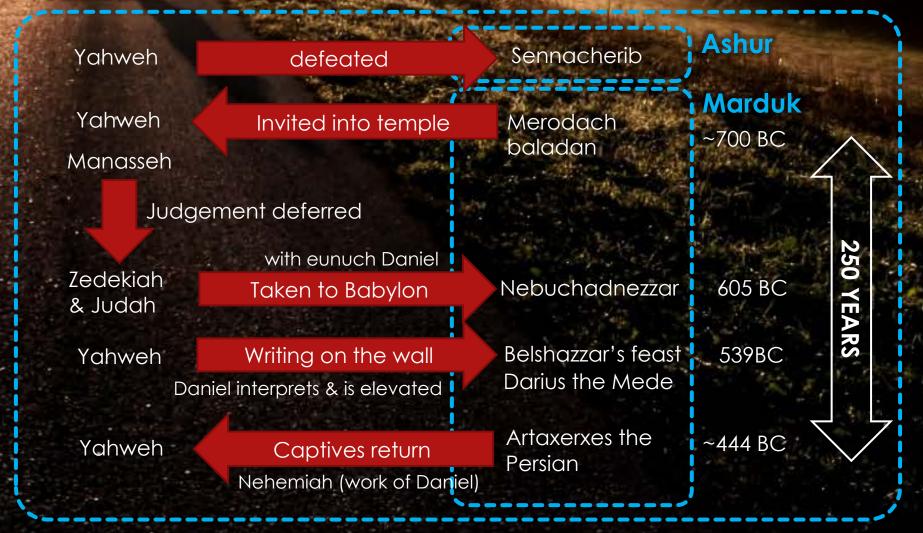
Isaiah already knew the answers to both questions (2 Kings 6:12)

2 Kings 20

- 16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.
- 17 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.
- ¹⁸ And of **thy sons** that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be **eunuchs** in the palace of the king of Babylon.

Yahweh

The 250-year long shadow of consequences



2 Kings 20:19

Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken.

And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days?

Better rendered:

Surely, there shall be peace and truth in my days

or

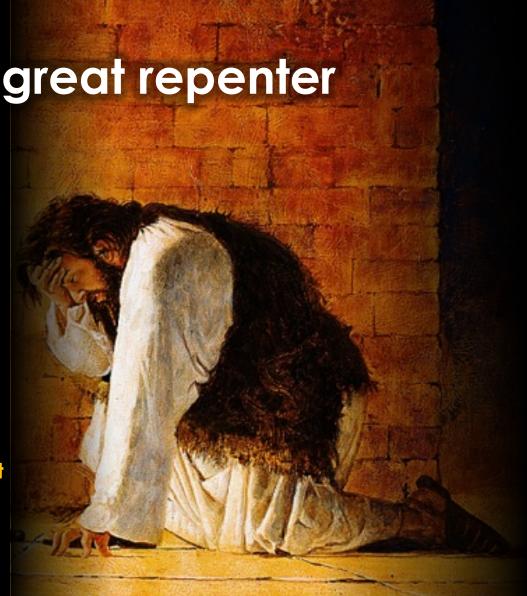
Shall it not be, if there is peace and truth in my days?"

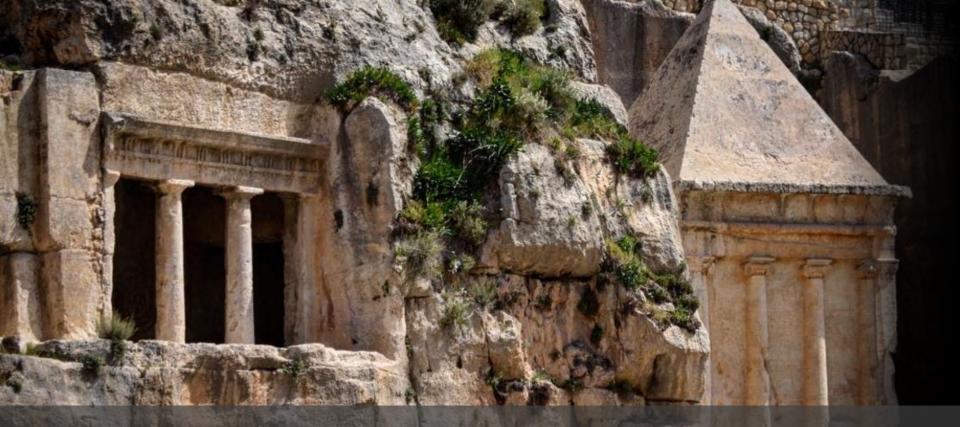


Hezekiah the great repenter

2 Chronicles 32:26

Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled **himself** for the pride of his heart, **both** he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD came not **upon them** in the days of Hezekiah.



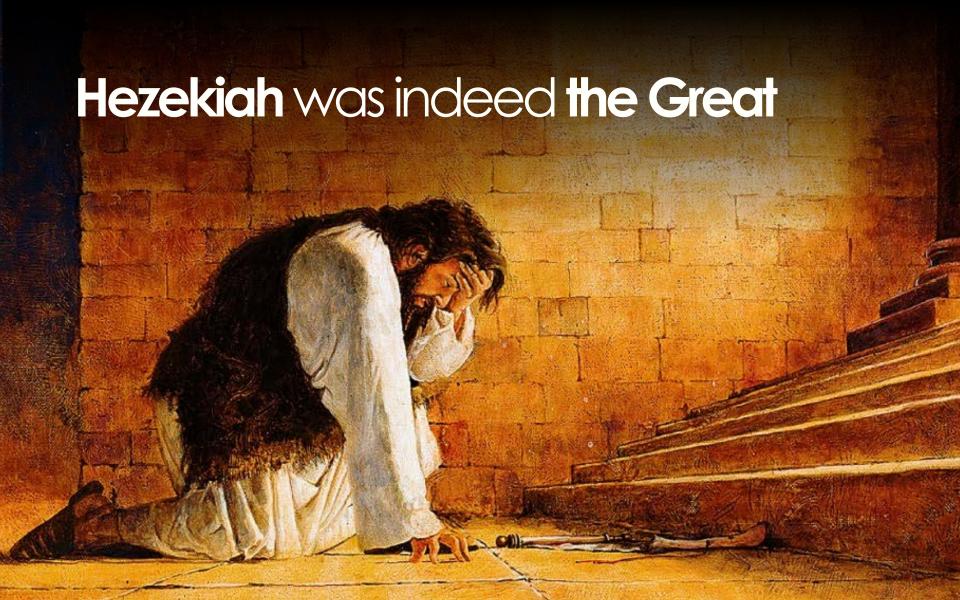


2 Chronicles 32:32,33

Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his goodness, behold, they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the Kings of Israel. And Hezekiah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the chiefest of all sepulchres of the sons of David: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem did him honour at his death.

2 Kings 18:5

Hezekiah trusted in the LORD God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.



Amen