

2 KINGS 19 vs 1

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The first and second books of the kings originally were one book, which Jewish tradition credits to the prophet Jeremiah. The subject follows the successes and failures of the kings of both Judah and Israel. This second book of kings follows the decline of **Israel** leading up to their captivity in Aram; and 170 years later, to the decline of **Judah** leading up to their captivity in Babylon.

Hezekiah, king of Judah,

¹ And it happened, when king Hezekiah heard the report, he ripped his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord.

² And he sent Eliakim, who managed the household, and Shebna the secretary, and the leading priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

³ And they said to him, Thus says Hezekiah, Today is a day of distress, rebuke, and disgrace: for the unborn have come to the birth, but there is no strength to deliver them.

⁴ Perhaps, the Lord your God will hear all the words of Rab-shakeh / the royal spokesman, whom his master, the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God; and will criticize the words the Lord your God has heard: For this reason lift up your prayer for the remnant that remain.

⁵ So the servants of king Hezekiah went to Isaiah. / because the Lord has the answer:

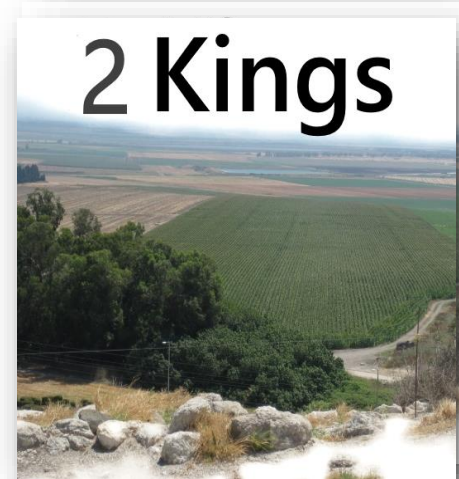
⁶ And Isaiah said to them, Tell your master, Thus says the Lord, do not fear the words you have heard, that the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.

⁷ Watch, I will put a demonic spirit in him, and he will hear a rumor, and return to his own land; where I will cause him to fall by the sword.

⁸ When Rab-shakeh / the royal spokesman herd that the king of Assyria had left Lachish, he found him warring against Libnah.

⁹ And when he heard it said that Tirhakah king of Cush, See, he went to fight against you: so he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying,

¹⁰ Say this to Hezekiah king of Judah, Do not let your God on whom you lean deceive you, saying, Jerusalem will not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria. / Sennacherib had no idea he was simply being used by God to accomplish His purposes,



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¹¹ See, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all countries, by destroying them completely: so will you be rescued? / and the answer is **YES**,

¹² Did the gods of the nations / **did demon worship**, rescue those who my predecessors destroyed; nations lie Gozan, Haran, Rezeph, and those of Eden in Telassar?

¹³ Where is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sephar, of Hena, and Ivah?

¹⁴ **And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord.**

¹⁵ **And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said, O Lord God of Israel, who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You made heaven and earth.**

¹⁶ Lord, listen closely: O Lord, open your eyes and see. Hear the words of Sennacherib, which he sent to mock the living God.

¹⁷ Of a truth, Lord, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

¹⁸ **and have thrown their demon gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of the hands of men -- wood and stone. So they have destroyed them.**

¹⁹ Now, O Lord our God, I ask you, please save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth will know that You, Lord are God; You alone.

²⁰ Then **Isaiah**, son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, **The Lord, the God of Israel says, I have heard your prayer to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria.**

²¹ **This is the word that the Lord spoke against him:**

The Virgin Daughter Zion despises you, and laughs to scorn you; Daughter Jerusalem shakes her head at you.

²² Who is it who mocked and blasphemed? Against whom did you raise your voice, and lifted up your eyes in pride? **Against the Holy One of Israel.**

²³ **By your messengers: You have mocked the Lord, you said, with my multitude of chariots I have gone up to the heights of the mountains, to the far side of Lebanon. I cut down its tallest cedars, its choice cypress trees. I entered to its remotest borders, and into its finest forest.**

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²⁴ I dug wells and drunk water in foreign lands, and I dried up all the rivers where I went.

²⁵ Well have you not heard? Long ago I did it; From ancient times I planned it; now I brought it to pass. That you laid waste fortified cities making them ruinous heaps.

²⁶ Their inhabitants are powerless, dismayed and perplexed. They were as plants of the field, as green herbs, and the grass on the rooftops, blasted by the east wind.

²⁷ But I know where you live: I know your going out, and your coming in, and your rage against Me.

²⁸ Since you rage against Me and your chaos has come up to My ears, I will put My hook in your nose, and My bit on your mouth, and I will turn you back by the way you came.

²⁹ And this will be the sign: This year you will eat what grows on its own, and the second year grows from the same; but in the third year sow and reap, plant vineyards, and eat its fruits.

³⁰ And the remnant that survives of the house of Judah will yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

³¹ For out of Jerusalem will go forth a remnant, and out of Mount Zion those who escape: the zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

³² Thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: / in case he disturbs you,

He will not enter this city,

nor shoot an arrow here,

nor come before it with a shield,

nor build up a siege ramp against it.

³³ He will return by the way he came, and he will not enter this city, says the Lord. / God had a handful of promises for His people.

³⁴ I will defend this city, to save it, for My sake, and the sake of My servant David.

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The defeat of Sennacherib,

³⁵ **And that night the angel of the Lord went out, and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians: when they got up the next morning – there were all the dead bodies!**

³⁶ **So Sennacherib king of Assyria broke camp, and hurried home, and lived in Nineveh** / well for a while, because we read:

³⁷ **And it happened, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his demon god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esar-haddon his son reigned in his place.**

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