

Sennacherib

2 Kings 18:13 – 19:37

2 Chronicles 32:1-19

Isaiah 36 - 37

Psalm 76

by Don Falkos

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Sennacherib king of Assyria marched to Jerusalem. His commander shouted, "Bow to Sennacherib, the great king of Assyria. Your army is too weak to defeat us. Any nation you might call on for assistance we have already defeated. None of their gods was able to help them. Nor can your god stop Sennacherib, the great king of Assyria."

Hezekiah prayed, "O Lord, Assyria has conquered many nations and destroyed their gods with fire. But those were not gods at all – only idols made by human hands. Now, O Lord, rescue us from Sennacherib so everyone will know that you alone are God of all the earth."

The prophet Isaiah delivered the Lord's message to Hezekiah:

I have heard Sennacherib's boasting and his blasphemy. I say to him: "Who do you think you are? Who do you think I am? I am the one who put you in authority to judge those other nations. But you have become so arrogant that you begin to mock me. I will put a hook in your nose and drag you back to the barn from which you came."

To you, Hezekiah, I say: "Don't be afraid. Not one of Sennacherib's arrows will touch the wall of Jerusalem. Before he reaches this city, I will send him scurrying back home. I will protect Jerusalem because of my promises to King David."

That night the angel of the Lord swept through Sennacherib's camp decimating the Assyrian army. In the morning Sennacherib and his surviving men beat a hasty retreat to Assyria. Then one day Sennacherib was kneeling before the idol in the temple of his god when two of his own sons killed him with a sword. Sennacherib, the great king of Assyria, was dead.