

I. The Request - Is. 37:14-20

1. Taking the letter to the temple and spreading out - was prayer (**verse 14**)
- Rea -do you know where to turn when you are threatened?
2. Verse 15 plainly says he prayed
3. Addressed God
 - Lord Almighty (**verse 16**)
 - enthroned between the cherubim
 - Rea -the cherubim in the temple were emblematic of the service and worship of all angels and creatures
 - you alone are God of all kingdoms
 - Rea -that would include the king of Assyria. Israel is not a “world power” like Assyria and Egypt and Babylon - so they would be “picked on” by other nations
 - creator - made heaven and earth
 - the living God (**verse 17**)
4. The threat is from Assyria and Sennacherib
 - it is a ridicule
5. Save us so that all the kingdoms will know how wonderful you are
6. It is true - at least partly what the king of Assyria has said (**verse 18**)
 - other gods have been thrown down by this king - you will be no different - and your God is no different (**verse 19**)
 - deliver us so that the nations may know you (**verse 20**)
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. A political leader praying - isn't that nice?
 - he is also humble - isn't that rare?
 2. Discuss prayer and the threats to our nation
 3. Obviously Hezekiah knew the “pecking order”
 4. So Hezekiah wants God almighty to know what Sennacherib is saying...???
 5. It's always right to go to the man in charge
 6. Prayer is demonstration of trust - if you don't pray then you don't trust
 7. Our God is different

II. The Sign - Is. 37:30-32

1. This is the sign (**verse 30**)
 - first year - eat “volunteer” plants
 - second year - you will eat what came from that first year
 - a few seeds will be enough
 - third year - you will plant again
 - Rea -hope in the third year
2. Contrast Hezekiah with Ahaz (chapter 7)
3. A remnant is coming in the third year (**verse 31**)
4. A band of survivors is coming (**verse 32**)
 - out of Mt Zion
 - out of Jerusalem

5. Talk of a remnant is a hint of a future messianic age to come

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Put it in context... the sign is an answer to the prayer
2. Go back in the chapter and notice that Isaiah delivered this “remnant” message to Hezekiah - a messenger that goes both ways. Isaiah took God’s message to the people, and the people’s concerns to God. The idea of a mediator. We hear from God through our mediator - Jesus.
3. People may leave God, but there will always be a remnant
4. This message is a future development, which requires that Hezekiah trust the Lord

III. The Answer - Is. 37:33-35

1. Concerning Sennacherib - king of Assyria (**verse 33**)
 - this is what the Lord says
 - he will not enter this city - nor even shoot an arrow
 - he will not get close enough to shoot an arrow
 - he will not get close enough to build a siege ramp, or need a shield
2. Compare 2 Kings 19:35 where it tells that the angel of the Lord struck down most of the army
3. He will return the same way he came (**verse 34**)
 - he will not enter the city
4. Deliverance will come for “my sake” (**verse 35**)
 - it secures the word/ promise He made to David of a descendant

Rea

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. God got involved with the affairs of men/ mankind
2. God has something bigger than Hezekiah in mind
 - God has something bigger than the USA in mind/ bigger than mine or your church
3. Hezekiah speaks directly to God - with the letter from Assyria
 - God spoke to Hezekiah through Isaiah - God’s messenger
4. Discuss your “threats” - how does God deal with His people being threatened?
5. I think... God was under no obligation to answer Hezekiah’s prayer - he was not a super Christian, nor a super-prayer

Blake Hearson/ SS Lesson for 10-18-20