## **Faith is the Victory**

Text: Isaiah 37:1-20 Date: 4-3-22 @ 10:30 AM

Truth: Hezekiah shows us the pattern for living a life of victory through faith in God.

I. God's Truth is the Basis for Victory (Isa. 37:1-5).

Step 1: Hezekiah knows what to do in time of need: mourn and pray.

Step 2: Seek God and His word

## Step 3: Humbly admit that man cannot do life without God

The elders admit to Isaiah that the people of Judah are in a difficult place, the king has been rebuked, and God and His people have been blasphemed.

The emphasis is on the word *strength* signifying Hezekiah recognized that Divine help was the only way that the situation would change.

Step 4: Utterly depend on God alone

Step 5: Ask others to pray with and for you

True hope only lies in Jehovah and no one else. Hezekiah deeply desires that Isaiah pray on behalf of His people, a prayer not of mere words but of an earnest petition before Jehovah.

II. Isaiah's response assures Hezekiah that faith in God will result in victory over the Assyrian army (Isa 37:6-7).

God has heard your petition.

- Do not be afraid of what you have heard.
  Their words are not against you, Hezekiah, they are against Me!
- God will send a spirit against the Assyrians for they are powerless against Him.
- III. The Assyrians challenge Hezekiah's faith in God (Isa. 37:8-13).
- IV. Hezekiah's prayer demonstrates His faith in the Lord alone (Isa. 37:14-20).

The king is confident that God will act on the nation's behalf. This is an act of child-like faith, believing that God will come to their defense and provide in time of need. Hezekiah responded as we should respond: quiet, reverential, and respectful petition before God.

Hezekiah truly believed in Jehovah and he maintained a great trust and dependence on God. The king's prayer focused on God as he:

- Acknowledges God (v. 16) Sustainer
- Recognizes the Lord God as one God (v 16) Sole Authority
- Demonstrates trust in who made heaven and earth (v 16) Creator

**Conclusion:** The prayer demonstrates man's helplessness, a confession of the true nature of the situation. The prayer also demonstrates the casting of one's self upon the hope of the Yahweh of the God of Israel. To think that any better option exists is sheer folly. To think that we should do differently is also folly. The pattern for our troubles is here in this chapter: lay our burdens before the Lord and trust Him to fight for us, and then give Him the glory for the victory. What will we do as a result?