

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Chronicles Chapters 31-32 9/22/2026

ROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

Phil Twente: <https://www.ptwente.com> - Previous Audio/notes ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221
NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: **07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS** Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: **07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS** Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

LAST WEEK: *2 Chronicles Chapter 29* – **Hezekiah** Reigns in Judah: Hezekiah Cleanses the Temple; Hezekiah Restores Temple Worship. *Chapter 30* – Hezekiah Keeps the Passover.

THIS WEEK: *2 Chronicles Chapter 31* – The Reforms of **Hezekiah** – (vs. 1-21). *Chapter 32* – Sennacherib Boasts Against the LORD – (vs. 1-19); Sennacherib's Defeat and Death – (vs. 20-23); Hezekiah Humbles Himself – (vs. 24-26); Hezekiah's Wealth and Honor – (vs. 27-31); Death of Hezekiah – (vs. 32-33).

Hezekiah Organizes the Priests

2Ch 31:1 Now when all this was finished, all Israel who were present went out to the cities of Judah and **broke the sacred pillars in pieces, cut down the wooden images, and threw down the high places and the altars—from all Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh—until they had utterly destroyed them all.** Then all the children of Israel returned to their own cities, every man to his possession.

- ***When all this***, the observance of Passover, a week of Feast of Unleavened Bread, and another seven days, this glorious work of God's Spirit in their lives, this time of spiritual renewal, was finished, *those from all Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim and Manasseh utterly destroyed* the sacred pillars, wooden, images, and high places, which they abhorred. They were moved in their hearts with a renewed commitment to God! Then they went home.
- **Remember what Ahaz had done, (2Ch 28:24-25)** So **Ahaz gathered the articles of the house of God, cut in pieces the articles of the house of God, shut up the doors of the house of the LORD, and made for himself altars in every corner of Jerusalem. [25] And in every single city of Judah he made high places to burn incense to other gods, and provoked to anger the LORD God of his fathers.**

2Ch 31:2 And Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and the Levites according to their divisions, each man according to his service, the priests and Levites for burnt offerings and peace offerings, to serve, to give thanks, and to praise in the gates of the camp of the LORD.

- God has called those in ministry to serve the LORD by serving His people. That is really the task. They were to serve, to give thanks and to praise the LORD! A certain number were just to give thanks to the LORD! Wouldn't that be a neat job? Just to give thanks to the LORD and to serve Him by singing, giving Him praise?

2Ch 31:3 The king also appointed a portion of his possessions for the burnt offerings: for the morning and evening burnt offerings, the burnt offerings for the Sabbaths and the New Moons and the set feasts, as it is written in the Law of the LORD.

- Hezekiah became prosperous, very wealthy. Of his own possessions, he gave the animals for the daily offerings that were to be offered unto the LORD. Those sacrifices and offerings are referred to in Numbers, chapters 28 and 29.

2Ch 31:4 Moreover he commanded the people who dwelt in Jerusalem to contribute support for the priests and the Levites, that they might devote themselves to the Law of the LORD.

- When a person would harvest their crop, they would bring in a tenth of it, giving it to the LORD. Thus, providing for the needs of the priests. Hezekiah encouraged them again, in the giving of these offerings, so that the priests would be encouraged in their work. The people whose hearts had been touched in this spiritual renewal began again to tithe of their first fruits.

2Ch 31:5-6 As soon as the commandment was circulated, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of grain and wine, oil and honey, and of all the produce of the field; and they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything. [6] And the children of Israel and Judah, who dwelt in the cities of Judah, brought the tithe of oxen and sheep; also the tithe of holy things which were consecrated to the LORD their God they laid in heaps.

- They were bringing in mainly the grain, the tithe of the wheat and the barley, just laying them in heaps.

2Ch 31:7 In the third month they began laying them in heaps, and they finished in the seventh month.

- The harvest is now completed, and from the third month to the seventh month as the crops are producing, they would bring in the tithe, the tenth, and so they began to heap them up. By the end of the seventh month, there was a tremendous amount of grain and food supplies. Enough for the supporting of the priesthood.

2Ch 31:8 And when Hezekiah and the leaders came and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD and His people Israel.

- It is always a blessing to see people respond to God! To respond with a willing heart. To respond in generosity to the things of the LORD, it is always such a blessing. They came down, and they saw all these heaps of grain and dried fruits, and all. "All right! LORD bless those people!" You know, and you just spontaneously offer praise and that is true praise. That which just spontaneously arises from your heart when you see the work of God; especially in the hearts of the people.

2Ch 31:9 Then Hezekiah questioned the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps.

- What are we going to do with all this?

2Ch 31:10-12 And Azariah the chief priest, from the house of Zadok, answered him and said, "Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the LORD, we have had enough to eat and have plenty left, for the LORD has blessed His people; and what is left is this great abundance." [11] Now Hezekiah commanded them to prepare rooms in the house of the LORD, and they prepared them. [12] Then they faithfully brought in the offerings, the tithes, and the dedicated things; Cononiah the Levite had charge of them, and Shimei his brother was the next.

- They prepared these chambers for the grain and all for storage of the excess.

2Ch 31:13-15 Jehiel, Azariah, Nahath, Asahel, Jerimoth, Jozabad, Eliel, Ismachiah, Mahath, and Benaiah were overseers under the hand of Cononiah and Shimei his brother, at the commandment of Hezekiah the king and Azariah the ruler of the house of God. [14] Kore the son of Imnah the Levite, the keeper of the East Gate, was over the freewill offerings to God, to distribute the offerings of the LORD and the most holy things. [15] And under him were Eden, Miniamin, Jeshua, Shemaiah, Amariah, and Shecaniah, his faithful assistants in the cities of the priests, to distribute allotments to their brethren by divisions, to the great as well as the small.

- The names of the priests that were set to take care of this abundance.

2Ch 31:16-17 Besides those males from three years old and up who were written in the genealogy, they distributed to everyone who entered the house of the LORD his daily portion for the work of his service, by

his division, [17] and to the priests who were written in the genealogy according to their father's house, and to the Levites from twenty years old and up according to their work, by their divisions,

- The work of his service, the duty of each of the twenty-four courses of the priests was one week, twice a year. They began that ministry at the age of twenty.
- *Mishnah Torah, Chap 3, Verse 9 - Samuel the prophet and David the king divided the Levites into twenty-four divisions; each division served for one week. The chief of a division divided the men of his division into subdivisions, family groups. The chiefs of the subdivisions distributed assignments among those serving on their particular day, each man performing his own task.*

2Ch 31:18 and to all who were written in the genealogy—their little ones and their wives, their sons and daughters, the whole company of them—for in their faithfulness they sanctified themselves in holiness.

- The Levites again dedicated themselves to the task of ministry to the LORD and to the people.

2Ch 31:19 Also for the sons of Aaron the priests, who were in the fields of the common-lands of their cities, in every single city, there were men who were designated by name to distribute portions to all the males among the priests and to all who were listed by genealogies among the Levites.

- Thus they were distributing the food among families of the priesthood.

2Ch 31:20 Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah, and he did what was good and right and true before the LORD his God.

- The record of Hezekiah, as he started his reign. He was doing that which was good, that which was right, and true before the LORD.

2Ch 31:21 And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, in the law and in the commandment, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart. So he prospered.

- First of all, the purpose of Hezekiah was to serve the LORD in all the work that he began in the service of the house of God. To keep the commandments of God, and to seek God. That was his purpose, but he did it with all of his heart! His method was of just going wholeheartedly for it!
- **The result of Hezekiah seeking God with all his heart was that he prospered! That is always so. Put the LORD first in your life, seek the LORD, and God will bless you. Jesus said in (Mat 6:33) But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. What a glorious reminder of this wonderful truth. May I never forget that!**

Sennacherib Invades Judah

2Ch 32:1 After these deeds of faithfulness, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and entered Judah; he encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them over to himself.

- The invasion of Judah by the Assyrians began in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah's reign. Eight years earlier, Israel had fallen to the Assyrians and had been carried captive into Assyria. Although it is not specifically mentioned, this invasion caused many refugees from the northern kingdom to flee south into Judah, a factor which would have contributed still further to the permanent representation of all twelve tribes of Israel in the land of Judah. Because of Hezekiah's revival, however, the wicked Assyrian hordes would not be allowed by God to conquer Judah as they had done to Israel.
- Having established the people again in their relationship to the LORD, then comes the testing. The Assyrians had been successful in conquering over Syria, the northern kingdom of Israel, and many other kingdoms. They were cruel and vicious, brutally mutilating those taken captive, disfiguring them deliberately. They would repopulate the people. They would take them from their homeland, separating them into small groups in foreign countries, totally demoralizing them.
- That is why, when the LORD called Jonah to go to Nineveh, calling on them to repent, or God would destroy them, Jonah headed the other way! Jonah knew that God was merciful, and he was afraid that he might have a successful mission to Nineveh.
- Jonah really wanted the Assyrians wiped out. But God said, "Look, there are one hundred and twenty thousand little children in that city, who do not yet know their right hand from their left!"
- **Jonah wanted the Assyrians wiped out. How wonderful to realize that God's mercy really was extended because of the little kids. The heart of God for the little ones, seeing those innocent little children, He spared the city really, for their sake, as much as anything. What mercy!**

2Ch 32:2-3 And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come, and that his purpose was to make war against Jerusalem, [3] he consulted with his leaders and commanders to stop the water from the springs which were outside the city; and they helped him.

- **Hezekiah makes preparations now for war.** The first thing he does is to stop up the water supplies that were outside of the walls. He does not want them coming laying siege to the city and having all the water that they want to drink. This is referring to the conduit (Hezekiah's Tunnel) that Hezekiah built from the spring of Gihon, into the pool of Siloam.
- **So the stopping up, is actually the covering of the spring from the outside, and the water then flowed on** through this conduit that they made, this tunnel through the rock, and emptied out in the pool of Siloam. So that during the siege, not only would the Assyrians be kept from the water, but they would have a sufficient supply of fresh water to maintain themselves during the siege.

2Ch 32:4 Thus many people gathered together who stopped all the springs and the brook (Kidron) that ran through the land, saying, "Why should the kings of Assyria come and find much water?"

- **You can imagine how much water it would take for an army of several hundred thousand.** Hezekiah was going to make them work for their water. Probably the closest supply outside of the spring of Gihon, was the Wadi Kelt, down towards Jericho. You would have to have several thousand men daily, just carrying water for the tremendous army that he had. We cannot imagine in our days of modern convenience, roads, and trucks.
- **When you go down to Masada, and you think of it** being taken by the tenth Roman legion, there in this dry, barren wilderness. The closest water was about twenty miles away at En-gedi. Even to the present day, you can see the path that goes from Masada to En-gedi, where the Roman soldiers had to go to get water for the troops there in the middle of the wilderness. The logistics are mind boggling.
- **So Hezekiah is doing a wise thing.** He is going to make it tough on these guys. "You're going to conquer us man; you are not going to do it easily!"

2Ch 32:5 And he strengthened himself, built up all the wall that was broken, raised it up to the towers, and built another wall outside; also he repaired the Millo in the City of David, and made weapons and shields in abundance.

- **Hezekiah not only takes care of the water supply, but he begins to build defensive walls** around the city. He repaired any gaps or any weaknesses in the existing wall around Jerusalem. Then he builds an entirely new wall around the city. We see how seriously they viewed the threat of Sennacherib, not wanting to fall to the Assyrians. They began to make weapons and shields in abundance, just beginning to prepare for war.

2Ch 32:6 Then he set military captains over the people, gathered them together to him in the open square of the city gate, and gave them encouragement, saying,

- **He did more than pray.** He was making active preparations from a physical standpoint, to withstand the Assyrians. He did not say, "Oh God, deliver us from the Assyrians! Then to leave the walls broken down, not making preparation at all from a physical standpoint.
- **God always expects us to do certain things.** There is God's work, always. But there is also the human responsibility that God requires.
- **Being a Christian should not give you an excuse for irresponsibility.** You do what you have to do, and you trust the LORD to take care of you. But there is that combination, always that combination. God's work, man's work. Man's responsibility.
- **The bible teaches the sovereignty of God, but it also teaches the responsibility of man, the necessity of our responding to God.** Christianity does not make you irresponsible, but it does make you a very responsible person. But we realize, "God is my source, my help, my strength, God is going to take care of me." But He is going to take care of me, by giving me the opportunity to work.
- **So the parts that we have to play, God's part, our part. Hezekiah did his part.** Now he has gathered the people to encourage them. **How fully do I realize my part in what needs to be done by the LORD?**

2Ch 32:7 "Be strong and courageous (Deu 31:6; Jos 1:7); do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him; for there are more with us than with him.

- **Now, why would you say that? Well, because everybody is dismayed and afraid.** He tells them, Do not be dismayed before all of the multitude that is with him, this gigantic, big seasoned and experienced army of at least 185,000 men. Do not be afraid of the multitude that is with him and you say, All right, give me one good reason. You tell me not to be afraid! For there are more with us than with him. **Hezekiah is speaking about God, speaking about the heavenly host, God's angelic army, in the angelic realm.**

2Ch 32:8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles." And the people were strengthened by the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

- **God is with us to fight our battles!** We made the preparation; we built up the walls; we stopped up the fountains; we have appointed the captains; we have the spears and the shields. But Our God is with us to fight our battles!" They were strengthened by his words. **Am I strengthening others by God's words?**

Sennacherib Blasphemes

2Ch 32:9-10 After this Sennacherib king of Assyria sent his servants to Jerusalem (but he and all the forces with him laid siege against Lachish), to Hezekiah king of Judah, and to all Judah who were in Jerusalem, saying, [10] "Thus says Sennacherib king of Assyria: 'In what do you trust, that you remain under siege in Jerusalem?

- How come you have not fled from Jerusalem, in what are you trusting? That you would stay there in Jerusalem, which is about to be besieged?"

2Ch 32:11 Does not Hezekiah persuade you to give yourselves over to die by famine and by thirst, saying, "The LORD our God will deliver us from the hand of the king of Assyria"?

- This king of yours, Hezekiah. He is simply encouraging you to die! He has encouraged you to die by famine, and by thirst!" Sennacherib does not know that Hezekiah has diverted the spring into the city. They may get hungry, but they are not going to get thirsty. They have got plenty of water!

2Ch 32:12 Has not the same Hezekiah taken away His high places and His altars, and commanded Judah and Jerusalem, saying, "You shall worship before one altar and burn incense on it"?

- That shows how little he knew about the God of Hezekiah. For Hezekiah was only fulfilling the command of God, to destroy the high places and the other places of worship, and to bring the central worship right into Jerusalem. It is interesting how that people talk about our faith, who know nothing about our faith.

2Ch 32:13 Do you not know what I and my fathers have done to all the peoples of other lands? Were the gods of the nations of those lands in any way able to deliver their lands out of my hand?

- Notice the use of "I" and "my"!

2Ch 32:14 Who was there among all the gods of those nations that my fathers utterly destroyed that could deliver his people from my hand, that your God should be able to deliver you from my hand?

- The whole idea was to destroy faith, to inspire fear! Satan often uses the same methods against us today! He tries to plant fear in your heart and destroy your confidence and faith in God. By getting you to look at the circumstances, getting you to look at the problem.
- Now what Hezekiah was doing was focusing the people's eyes on the LORD! "All they have is the arm of flesh! But with us is the LORD our God! *Get your eyes on the LORD!* He will fight this battle for us!" Now Sennacherib is trying to get their eyes on him and the power of his army.
- **What a tendency that we all have, which is to get our eyes on our problem and not on the LORD. When our eyes are on ourselves, our problem gets larger and larger and God gets smaller and smaller! But when our eyes are on Him, He gets so much larger, that our problem shrinks to nothing! This is such a great and powerful illustration of this! May I remember this!**

2Ch 32:15 Now therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or persuade you like this, and do not believe him; for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people from my hand or the hand of my fathers. How much less will your God deliver you from my hand?"

- In Sennacherib's attack against God, he does not realize that Assyria had defeated all the other nations, who had only false gods! Such a far cry of having the One true and living God. The "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS!"

2Ch 32:16 Furthermore, his servants spoke against the LORD God and against His servant Hezekiah.

- In (2Ki 18:29-30,35) Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he shall not be able to deliver you from his hand; [30] nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, "The LORD will surely deliver us; this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." [35] Who among all the gods of the lands have delivered their countries from my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem from my hand?

2Ch 32:17-18 He also wrote letters to revile the LORD God of Israel, and to speak against Him, saying, "As the gods of the nations of other lands have not delivered their people from my hand, so the God of Hezekiah will not deliver His people from my hand." [18] Then they called out with a loud voice in Hebrew to the people of Jerusalem who were on the wall, to frighten them and trouble them, that they might take the city.

- It was a whole psychological warfare going on as these guys were calling up the threats, telling the people on the walls of what they were going to do to them. How they were going to mutilate them, and all, if they dared to resist. They were seeking to get them to capitulate.

2Ch 32:19 And they spoke against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth—the work of men's hands.

- They talked about God as though He were like the other gods. Gods that were created by men's hands. Little idols and so forth, they did not know Who they were contending with.

- **Hezekiah took the letter before the LORD, spread it out, saying, “LORD look how they are blaspheming You, look what they are saying! LORD it is true, we do not have the strength to go against this army. They are stronger than we are, but LORD they are not stronger than You! So we are going to trust in You! We are going to rely on You! Take care of them LORD, because look what they said!”**

The LORD Delivers Jerusalem

2Ch 32:20 Now because of this King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, prayed and cried out to heaven.

- **This is the prophet Isaiah who has written the book of Isaiah, who gives us extra details on Hezekiah, in this period of time. Isaiah tells us that when God wiped out the Assyrian army, that a great fear gripped the hearts of the sinners in Jerusalem, and they saw the power of God against the Assyrians, they said, “Wait a minute, this is a very powerful God! Who are we to stand before Him without getting wiped out? Who of us can approach this fire without being destroyed?”**
- **(2Ki 19:15-17,19) Then Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said: "O LORD God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. [16] Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God. [17] Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, [19] Now therefore, O LORD our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD God, You alone."**

2Ch 32:21 Then the LORD sent an angel who cut down every mighty man of valor, leader, and captain in the camp (185,000) of the king of Assyria. So he returned shamefaced to his own land. And when he had gone into the temple of his god, some of his own offspring struck him down with the sword there.

- **In one night a hundred and eighty-five thousand were slain by the angel of the LORD! They died mysteriously in the night, so that when the rest of the troops awoke and looked around, they were surrounded by the dead corpses of their brethren.**
- **What a great promise from the LORD, (Isa 37:35-36) 'For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David's sake.' " [36] Then the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead.**
- **He returned shamefaced to his own land. (2Ki 19:36-37a) So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh. [37] Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the temple of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down with the sword..**

2Ch 32:22 Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all others, and guided them on every side.

- **God delivered them out of the hands of the Assyrians. This broke the back of the Assyrian power. Because of the weakened position, Assyria soon fell to the Babylonians, who then became the dominating power.**

2Ch 32:23 And many brought gifts to the LORD at Jerusalem, and presents to Hezekiah king of Judah, so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations thereafter.

- **Everybody was happy for the defeat of the Assyrian army, so they brought Hezekiah gifts. He became exalted, his reputation and everything in the land.**

Hezekiah's Pride and Achievements

2Ch 32:24 In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death, and he prayed to the LORD; and He spoke to him and gave him a sign.

- **Hezekiah was healed! God gave him an extra fifteen years. (Isa 38:1-8) In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die and not live.' [2] Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the LORD, [3] and said, "Remember now, O LORD, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what is good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. [4] And the word of the LORD came to Isaiah, saying, [5] "Go and tell Hezekiah, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears; surely I will add to your days fifteen years. [6] I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city." [7] And this is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing which He has spoken: [8] Behold, I will bring the shadow on the sundial, which has gone down with the sun on the sundial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward." So the sun returned ten degrees on the dial by which it had gone down.**

2Ch 32:25 But Hezekiah did not repay according to the favor shown him, for his heart was lifted up; therefore wrath was looming over him and over Judah and Jerusalem.

- After this he became prideful. It is tragic that after God has done such a spectacular work in a man's life, that the man sort of gets lifted up. That is always the danger! We see it today. He was lifted up with pride.
- **Hezekiah was one of the very best kings. We see his failure was not when he was down and desperate, but it was at the top of his prosperity and reign. Notice the consequences! What a powerful illustration and example for me! For all of us! Help us to learn from this!**

2Ch 32:26 Then Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

- He did respond to God, which is good! Hezekiah was a king with wonderful record, but God's best men are men at best. There are no perfect men except Jesus Christ. When Solomon dedicated this temple, he said, There is no man who does not sin. The wisest man that ever lived knew that. Hezekiah with the emissaries that come from Babylon, not deliberately but foolishly in pride, does something he should not have done. Isaiah comes and reproves him for that and immediately Hezekiah repents! He makes his heart right with the LORD again! That is the kind of man that he was!
- So judgment through the invasion and captivity by Babylon would come upon Judah a little bit later, but not during his reign because of his continued godliness and his repentance

2Ch 32:27-29 Hezekiah had very great riches and honor. And he made himself treasuries for silver, for gold, for precious stones, for spices, for shields, and for all kinds of desirable items; [28] storehouses for the harvest of grain, wine, and oil; and stalls for all kinds of livestock, and folds for flocks. [29] Moreover he provided cities for himself, and possessions of flocks and herds in abundance; for God had given him very much property.

- Here is the honor done to Hezekiah, By God's providence of while he lived. He had very great riches and honor; replenished his stores, laying up a stock of food, fortified his cities, doing all he wished to do, for God had given him cities, flocks and herds in abundance!

2Ch 32:30 This same Hezekiah also stopped the water outlet of Upper Gihon, and brought the water by tunnel to the west side of the City of David. Hezekiah prospered in all his works.

- Among his great performances, his turning the water-course of Gihon (Hezekiah's Tunnel) is mentioned, which was accomplished upon occasion of Sennacherib's invasion. The water had come into that which is called the old pool and the upper pool. He gathered the waters into a new place, for the greater convenience of the city. He prospered in all his works, for they were good works.

2Ch 32:31 However, regarding the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, whom they sent to him to inquire about the wonder that was done in the land, God withdrew from him, in order to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart.

- After the Assyrians were wiped out, the Babylonians were so happy they sent emissaries to him, to congratulate him on the recovery of his terminal sickness. He was healed. The emissaries said, "What a great man! Wonderful." In his pride, he began to show off the wealth. There was nothing he did not show them!
- The prophet came to him asking, "Who were these guys that came that were just leaving?" He said, "They were the Babylonians," he said, "What did you show them?" he said, "I showed them everything," he said, "You have planted the seeds of disaster. They have seen the wealth, and now greed will fill their heart. They will go back and they will talk about it, and soon the Babylonian army will be down here to rip off this wealth." It did happen. It was a prideful thing.
- Notice the testing by God here...that He might know what was in Hezekiah's heart! It was a testing of God, which he failed.
- **During times that God tests me, how quickly do I recognize that is what is going on?**

2Ch 32:32-33 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and his goodness, indeed they are written in the vision of Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, and in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. [33] So Hezekiah rested with his fathers, and they buried him in the upper tombs of the sons of David; and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem honored him at his death. Then Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

- It is interesting how that Hezekiah's father Ahaz was a horrible king, a wicked king. Hezekiah was a good king. His son Manasseh was horrible. Interesting. Just flip-flop. From a bad king to a good king, now to a horrible king, and then we will come back to a good king again, Josiah. So it is a period of ups and downs for the nation, as far as the leadership is concerned.
- It was the purpose of Hezekiah to basically get the people to focus their eyes, not upon the problem, not upon the enemy, but upon the LORD! This is what dispels the fears. This is what takes away the anxiety. This

is what gives you strength and courage, as you look to the power of the LORD. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" The glorious truth is this, "God is for you, if you will be for Him, and if you seek Him, you will find Him, but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you."

SUMMARY:

- **2Ch 31:21** The result of Hezekiah seeking God with all his heart was that he prospered! That is always so. Put the **LORD first in your life**, seek the LORD, and God will bless you. Jesus said in (**Mat 6:33**) *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.* What a glorious reminder of this wonderful truth. May I never forget that!
- **2Ch 32:1** Jonah wanted the Assyrians wiped out. How wonderful to realize that God's mercy really was extended because of the little kids. The heart of God for the little children, seeing those innocent little children, He spared the city really, for their sake, as much as anything. What mercy!
- **2Ch 32:14** What a tendency that we all have, which is to get our eyes on our problem and not on the LORD. When our eyes are on ourselves, our problem gets larger and larger and God gets smaller and smaller! But when our eyes are on Him, He gets so much larger, that our problem shrinks to nothing! This is such a great and powerful illustration of this! May I remember this!
- **2Ch 32:25** Hezekiah was one of the very best kings. We see his failure was not when he was down and desperate, but it was at the top of his prosperity and reign. Notice the consequences! What a powerful illustration and example for me! For all of us! Help us to learn from this.
- **2Ch 32:31** During times that God tests me, how quickly do I recognize that is what is going on?

(2Ch 32:21) Then the LORD sent an angel who cut down every mighty man of valor, leader, and captain in the camp of the king of Assyria. (2Ki 19:32) "Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: 'He shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow there, Nor come before it with shield, Nor build a siege mound..

STANDING ON THE PROMISES - Russell Carter (1849-1928)– Maranatha Singers (2:28/2:31)

1 Standing on the promises of Christ the King, through eternal ages let His praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

2 Standing on the promises I now can see Perfect, present cleansing in the blood for me; Standing in the liberty where Christ makes free, Standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)

3 Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Chronicles, Chapters 33-34