

NOON BIBLE STUDY: 2 KINGS 20

2 KINGS 20:1-7 HEZEKIAH'S ILLNESS

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT ILLED HEZEKIAH BUT WE DO KNOW THAT IT WAS A SICKNESS THAT WOULD END IN HIS DEATH. ISAIAH BRINGS THE DIAGNOSIS TO HIM.

V. 6 - "I WILL DELIVER YOU AND THIS CITY FROM THE HAND OF ASSYRIA" - THIS IS AN INTERESTING TIME MARKER TO THIS STORY OF HEZEKIAH'S HEALING. IT PLACES THIS RECORD IN CHAPTER 20 BEFORE THE EVENTS OF CHAPTER 19 (JERUSALEM'S DELIVERANCE FROM ASSYRIA). IN OTHER WORDS, HEZEKIAH'S HEALING AND PROMISE TO LIVE 15 YEARS LONGER THAN HE SHOULD HAPPENED BEFORE SENNACHERIB'S SIEGE OF JERUSALEM. (THIS IS A GOOD REMINDER FOR BIBLE READERS THAT THE BIBLE IS NOT ORGANIZED IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.) WE'LL EXPLORE THIS MORE IN A MOMENT. FIRST, LET'S READ ABOUT ANOTHER MIRACLE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS EVENT.

2 KINGS 20:8-11 - THE SUN GOES THE OTHER WAY

THIS IS A GOOD MOMENT TO RETURN TO THE TIMING AND PLACEMENT OF THIS MIRACLE. WE LEARNED FROM VERSE 6 THAT THIS ALL HAPPENED BEFORE THE SIEGE OF JERUSALEM. HEZEKIAH IS SICK AND HIS ILLNESS WILL END WITH HIS DEATH. HE PRAYS TO GOD TO BE HEALED AND ISAIAH RETURNS MOMENTS LATER TO DECLARE THE LORD'S WORD THAT HE WILL LIVE ANOTHER 15 YEARS. TO CONFIRM THIS WORD, YAHWEH, THE CREATOR GOD CAUSES THAT "SHADOW" TO GO BACKWARDS 10 STEPS (RATHER THAN ITS NATURAL DIRECTION - FORWARD). HEZEKIAH IS LEFT WITH A PERSONAL MIRACLE AND TESTIMONY OF THE POWER AND LOVE OF THE LORD. THIS WOULD BE A LIFE-CHANGING MOMENT ON MANY LEVELS.

AND WE ARE REMINDED OF THE FINAL PROMISE OF THE WORD FROM ISAIAH:

2 KINGS 20:6 - "I WILL ADD FIFTEEN YEARS TO YOUR LIFE, AND I WILL DELIVER YOU AND THIS CITY FROM THE HAND OF THE KING OF ASSYRIA"

HEZEKIAH HAS EXPERIENCED GOD. AND HE NOW WILL MOVE TO FACE A GREAT ENEMY, ASSYRIA WHO THREATENS NOT ONLY HEZEKIAH'S LIFE, BUT THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE NATION. BUT HEZEKIAH WILL ENTER THE DAYS OF ASSYRIA'S ATTACK NOT AS A YOUNG AND FAITHLESS LEADER, BUT AS A CONFIDENT BELIEVER IN THE POWER OF GOD. GOD USES A "SMALL" MIRACLE AND DEMONSTRATION OF HIS LOVE AND POWER TO BUILD CONFIDENCE IN HEZEKIAH TO FACE A GREATER CHALLENGE.

THIS IS A BIBLICAL PATTERN OF HOW GOD BUILDS FAITH IN HIS PEOPLE. MOSES CAN FACE PHARAOH BECAUSE HE SAW THE LORD IN THE BURNING BUSH AND HIS STAFF TURNING TO A SNAKE. DAVID CAN FACE GOLIATH BECAUSE HE SAW THE LORD'S HAND WHEN HE FACED THE LION AND THE BEAR. HEZEKIAH CAN STAND BEFORE THE DOMINANT AND FIERCE ASSYRIAN EMPIRE BECAUSE HE HAS SEEN THE LORD'S HEALING POWER AND ABILITY TO CONTROL THE PATH OF THE SUN.

THESE "SMALL" MIRACLES (IF THERE IS EVEN SUCH A DESIGNATION) SHOULD BE REMEMBERED AND RECOUNTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GOD. THIS WILL EMBOLDEN AND THUS EMPOWER US TO FACE GREATER THINGS IN THE FUTURE KNOWING THAT GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL IN THE

PAST. IF WE FORGET WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE, WE WILL FACE THE FUTURE AFRAID. IF WE REMEMBER, WE CAN BE FAITHFUL AND FEARLESS.

THIS IS WHY DAVID WROTE PSALM 103:

PSALM 103:1-5 - BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS HIS HOLY NAME. 2 BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL, AND FORGET NONE OF HIS BENEFITS; 3 WHO PARDONS ALL YOUR INIQUITIES, WHO HEALS ALL YOUR DISEASES; 4 WHO REDEEMS YOUR LIFE FROM THE PIT, WHO CROWNS YOU WITH LOVINGKINDNESS AND COMPASSION; 5 WHO SATISFIES YOUR YEARS WITH GOOD THINGS, SO THAT YOUR YOUTH IS RENEWED LIKE THE EAGLE.

AND THIS EXPLAINS WHY HEZEKIAH WAS ABLE TO SPEAK THE FOLLOWING YEARS LATER:

2 CHRONICLES 32:7-8 - "BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS, DO NOT FEAR OR BE DISMAYED BECAUSE OF THE KING OF ASSYRIA NOR BECAUSE OF ALL THE HORDE THAT IS WITH HIM; FOR THE ONE WITH US IS GREATER THAN THE ONE WITH HIM. 8 "WITH HIM IS ONLY AN ARM OF FLESH, BUT WITH US IS THE LORD OUR GOD TO HELP US AND TO FIGHT OUR BATTLES." AND THE PEOPLE RELIED ON THE WORDS OF HEZEKIAH KING OF JUDAH.

2 KINGS 20:12-19 - A VISIT FROM BABY BABYLON

HEZEKIAH WELCOMES A VISITING FOREIGN OFFICIAL TO JERUSALEM AND DURING HIS VISIT HEZEKIAH GIVES HIM A TOUR OF HIS TREASURY. THERE IS A PART OF THIS SHOW AND TELL THAT IS HEZEKIAH'S EXCITEMENT TO HAVE FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS COMING TO PAY HIM RESPECT:

"THERE'S SOMETHING GRATIFYING, IS THERE NOT, TO DISCOVER THAT PEOPLE FAR AWAY HAVE AN INTEREST IN YOU? IT IS HEART-WARMING TO SEE THAT YOU MATTER TO IMPORTANT PEOPLE." - DALE RALPH DAVIS, FOCUS ON THE BIBLE: 2 KINGS, PAGE 304-305

AND, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE KNOW THIS RECORD HAPPENS BEFORE CHAPTERS 18-19 AND ASSYRIA'S ATTACK, IT ALSO WAS LIKELY A POLITICAL DECISION WITH THE THREAT OF ASSYRIA LOOMING OVER THE REGION. POTENTIAL ALLY BABYLON, COMES AND SEES WHETHER OR NOT JUDAH WILL BE A SUFFICIENT PARTNER AGAINST ASSYRIA. NOTICE THAT HEZEKIAH NOT ONLY SHOWS THE BABYLONIANS HIS MONEY, BUT ALSO HIS ARMOR (V. 13).

AT THIS POINT IN HISTORY, BABYLON IS NOT THE GREAT POWER THAT SHE WILL BECOME, SUPPLANTING ASSYRIA AS THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL EMPIRE. RIGHT NOW BABYLON IS CONCERNED ABOUT ASSYRIA JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE IS, INCLUDING HEZEKIAH'S KINGDOM. BUT WHAT WE SEE IN THIS MOMENT IS A POTENTIAL CONCERNING ACT.

HEZEKIAH DOES MORE "SHOW" THAN HE DOES "TELL". HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SPEAKING TO THE OFFICIALS ABOUT THE GREATNESS OF THE LORD, INSTEAD HE SHOWS HIM THE SHINE OF HIS GOLD. AND THIS EVENT WARRANTS ISAIAH'S INVOLVEMENT.

ISAIAH DECLARES TO HEZEKIAH THAT BABYLON IS EVENTUALLY GOING TO RISE TO POWER AND OVERWHELM JUDAH. IT IS NOT CLEAR THAT THIS PROPHETIC WORD IS AS RESULT OF HEZEKIAH SHOWING OFF BEFORE BABYLON, BUT IT CERTAINLY IS USED AS A REFERENCE POINT TO HEZEKIAH SO HE KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE DAYS TO COME. IT'S LIKE ISAIAH COMES AND SAYS "HEY, HEZEKIAH, REMEMBER ALL

THE STUFF YOU JUST SHOWED BABYLON...YEAH, WELL, THEY ARE COMING IN THE DAYS AHEAD TO TAKE EVERY SINGLE PENNY AWAY FROM YOU ALONG WITH ALL OF YOUR PEOPLE..." YIKES! THAT MUST HAVE CONVICTED THE KING.

HEZEKIAH'S RESPONSE IS INTERESTING AS WELL. HE IS GRATEFUL THAT THE COMING JUDGMENT IS FUTURE AND NOT SUDDEN (NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT SENTIMENT). BUT HE ALSO SEEMS SELF-FOCUSED WHEN HE ACKNOWLEDGES THE COMING JUDGMENT IS NOT HIS PROBLEM, BUT MAYBE THE NEXT GUY'S ISSUE. 2 CHRONICLES TELLS US THAT THIS WAS A MOMENT OF PRIDE THAT QUICK REPENTANCE CORRECTED:

2 CHRONICLES 32:25-26 - HEZEKIAH GAVE NO RETURN FOR THE BENEFIT HE RECEIVED, BECAUSE HIS HEART WAS PROUD; THEREFORE WRATH CAME ON HIM AND ON JUDAH AND JERUSALEM. 26 HOWEVER, HEZEKIAH HUMBLERED THE PRIDE OF HIS HEART, BOTH HE AND THE INHABITANTS OF JERUSALEM, SO THAT THE WRATH OF THE LORD DID NOT COME ON THEM IN THE DAYS OF HEZEKIAH.

2 CHRONICLES 32:31 - EVEN IN THE MATTER OF THE ENVOYS OF THE RULERS OF BABYLON, WHO SENT TO HIM TO INQUIRE OF THE WONDER THAT HAD HAPPENED IN THE LAND, GOD LEFT HIM ALONE ONLY TO TEST HIM, THAT HE MIGHT KNOW ALL THAT WAS IN HIS HEART.

NEVERTHELESS, WE SEE A FORESHADOW OF WHAT WILL BECOME A MAJOR THEME AS WE FINISH 2 KINGS: BABYLON IS ON THE RISE.

2 KINGS 20:20-21 - HEZEKIAH'S REIGN

WE ALREADY KNOW THE GREAT EVENT OF HEZEKIAH'S KINGDOM (FROM THE PREVIOUS CHAPTERS) AND NOW WE GET THE STANDARD CONCLUSION OF THE NARRATOR: "NOW THE REST OF THE ACTS OF HEZEKIAH..." AND SO ON. AS WE CONCLUDE HIS REIGN, LET'S REMEMBER THAT HEZEKIAH DID LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD WITH ALL HIS HEART. HIS FOOLISH DECISION TO WELCOME THE BABYLONIAN OFFICIALS IS NOT UNLIKE OUR LIVES. WE ENDEAVOR TO LIVE FOR THE LORD WITH EVERYTHING, AND THEN SOMETIMES WE MAKE THE WRONG CHOICE. BUT WE GET BACK UP AND WALK GOD'S PATH AND HE WORKS WITH AND IN US. HEZEKIAH DID SOME GREAT REFORMS, RESTORED THE TEMPLE AND CELEBRATED THE PASSOVER (2 CHRONICLES 30). HE SOUGHT THE LORD WHEN HE WAS SICK AND HIS PRAYER WAS HEARD (2 KINGS 20). HE SHOWED BABYLON HIS STORE HOUSES (2 KINGS 20). AND WHEN FACING THE ASSYRIAN THREAT HE ENCOURAGED THE NATION AND RELIED ON THE MIGHT OF GOD (2 KINGS 18-19, 2 CHRONICLES 32). OVER THE COURSE OF HIS LIFE, HEZEKIAH WAS NOT SINLESS, BUT HE WAS FAITHFUL. A GREAT DESCRIPTION TO ASPIRE TO.

FINAL POINTS: THIS IS NOT A FABLE. THIS REALLY HAPPENED.

MANY CHURCH-GOING BIBLE READERS WILL APPROACH THE STORY OF HEZEKIAH'S LIFE AS TRUE, INSPIRED AND INSPIRING. BUT THERE ARE SOME DETAILS TO THIS STORY WHICH WILL BOLSTER YOUR FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE GOD OF HEZEKIAH. WE BELIEVE THIS STORY BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE'S TELLING OF IT. BUT LOOK WHAT ELSE WE CAN LEARN.

WATERS AND TUNNELS AND SPRINGS

2 KINGS 20:20 MENTIONS THE "POOL" AND "CONDUIT" AND BRINGING "WATER INTO THE CITY." BEFORE WE JUST READ OVER THAT AS A NON-RELEVANT DETAIL, LET'S EXPLORE A BIT DEEPER. WE READ IN 2 CHRONICLES 32 THAT HEZEKIAH ORDERED FOR THE SPRINGS AROUND JERUSALEM TO BE COVERED UP SO THAT THE ASSYRIANS WOULD NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THEM. A SIEGE IS NOT JUST AN ATTACK, IT IS WHEN AN INVADING ARMY SURROUNDS A CITY TO EITHER STARVE THE PEOPLE TO DEATH OR FORCE THEM TO SURRENDER DUE TO THE CONDITIONS INSIDE THE CITY. THE

RESIDENTS OF JERUSALEM COULDN'T LEAVE THE CITY TO GET THE SPRINGS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY - SO HOW THEN WOULD THEY SURVIVE? IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE CITY HAD AN INDEPENDENT WATER SOURCE IN THE CITY, WHICH IT DID NOT HAVE. JERUSALEM WAS WATERED BY THE GIHON SPRING, JUST OUTSIDE OF THE CITY. IN OUR DAY, WE WOULD DIG A PIPELINE TO BRING WATER FROM OUTSIDE THE CITY INTO THE CITY. ASTONISHINGLY, THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT HEZEKIAH DID!

2 KINGS 20:20 - NOW THE REST OF THE ACTS OF HEZEKIAH AND ALL HIS MIGHT, AND HOW HE MADE THE POOL AND THE CONDUIT AND BROUGHT WATER INTO THE CITY, ARE THEY NOT WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE CHRONICLES OF THE KINGS OF JUDAH?

2 CHRONICLES 32:30 - IT WAS HEZEKIAH WHO STOPPED THE UPPER OUTLET OF THE WATERS OF GIHON AND DIRECTED THEM TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE CITY OF DAVID. AND HEZEKIAH PROSPERED IN ALL THAT HE DID.

HERE'S WHERE THIS COMES ALIVE EVEN MORE. LOOK WHAT ARCHEOLOGISTS HAVE FOUND:



"(BEHOLD) THE EXCAVATION.
NOW THIS IS THE HISTORY OF

THE BREAKING THROUGH. WHILE THE WORKMEN WERE STILL LIFTING UP THE PICKAXE, EACH TOWARD HIS NEIGHBOR, AND WHILE THREE CUBITS YET REMAINED TO (CUT THROUGH, EACH HEARD) THE VOICE OF THE OTHER CALLING TO HIS NEIGHBOR, FOR THERE WAS AN EXCESS IN THE ROCK ON THE RIGHT... AND ON THE DAY OF THE BREAKING THROUGH, THE EXCAVATORS STRUCK, EACH TO MEET THE OTHER, PICKAXE AGAINST PICKAXE; AND THERE FLOWED THE WATER FROM THE SPRING TO THE POOL OVER (A SPACE OF) ONE THOUSAND AND TWO HUNDRED CUBITS. AND ... OF A CUBIT WAS THE HEIGHT OF THE ROCK ABOVE THE HEADS OF THE EXCAVATORS." (BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY TRUTH, "HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL" VIA [HTTP://WWW.BIBLICALARCHEOLOGYTRUTH.COM/HEZEKIAHS-TUNNEL.HTML](http://www.biblicalarchaeologytruth.com/hezekiahs-tunnel.html))

IF THAT WERE NOT EXCITING ENOUGH THERE IS ONE MORE THING WORTH SHARING FROM THIS RECORD. A MAJOR FIGURE OF THE STORY OF HEZEKIAH WAS SENNACHERIB, THE RULER OF ASSYRIA. THE BIBLE RECORDS HIS FIERCE TAKE OVER OF THE REGION, HIS EXILING OF ISRAEL AND HIS ATTACK ON JERUSALEM.



THE TAYLOR (OR SENNACHERIB'S) PRISM WAS DISCOVERED AMONG THE RUINS OF ANCIENT NINEVEH BY COLONEL TAYLOR IN 1830. OF ALL ASSYRIAN DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE COME DOWN TO US NOT ONE IS IN BETTER PRESERVATION THAN THIS.

HERE IS THE TRANSLATION OF WHAT IS WRITTEN ON THIS ARTIFACT:

AS FOR HEZEKIAH THE JUDAHITE, WHO DID NOT SUBMIT TO MY YOKE: FORTY-SIX OF HIS STRONG, WALLED CITIES, AS WELL AS THE SMALL TOWNS IN THEIR AREA, WHICH WERE WITHOUT NUMBER, BY LEVELLING WITH BATTERING-RAMS AND BY BRINGING UP SEIGE-ENGINES, AND BY ATTACKING AND STORMING ON FOOT, BY MINES, TUNNELS, AND BREECHES, I BESIEGED AND TOOK THEM. 200,150 PEOPLE, GREAT AND SMALL, MALE AND FEMALE, HORSES, MULES, ASSES, CAMELS, CATTLE AND SHEEP WITHOUT NUMBER, I BROUGHT AWAY FROM THEM AND COUNTED AS SPOIL. (HEZEKIAH) HIMSELF, LIKE A CAGED BIRD I SHUT UP IN JERUSALEM, HIS ROYAL CITY. I THREW UP EARTHWORKS AGAINST HIM— THE ONE COMING OUT OF THE CITY-GATE, I TURNED BACK TO HIS MISERY. HIS CITIES, WHICH I HAD DESPOILED, I CUT OFF FROM HIS LAND, AND TO MITINTI, KING OF ASHDOD, PADI, KING OF EKRON, AND SILLI-BÊL, KING OF GAZA, I GAVE (THEM). AND THUS I DIMINISHED HIS LAND. I ADDED TO THE FORMER TRIBUTE, AND I LAID UPON HIM THE SURRENDER OF THEIR LAND AND IMPOSTS—GIFTS FOR MY MAJESTY. AS FOR HEZEKIAH, THE TERRIFYING SPLENDOR OF MY MAJESTY OVERCAME HIM, AND THE ARABS AND HIS MERCENARY TROOPS WHICH HE HAD BROUGHT IN TO STRENGTHEN JERUSALEM, HIS ROYAL CITY, DESERTED HIM. (SOURCE: COMPLETE TRANSLATIONS OF THE RECORDS OF SENNACHERIB CAN BE FOUND IN DANIEL D. LUCKENBILL, ANCIENT RECORDS OF ASSYRIA AND BABYLONIA, VOL. 2, AND IN JAMES PRITCHARD'S ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN TEXTS (1950))

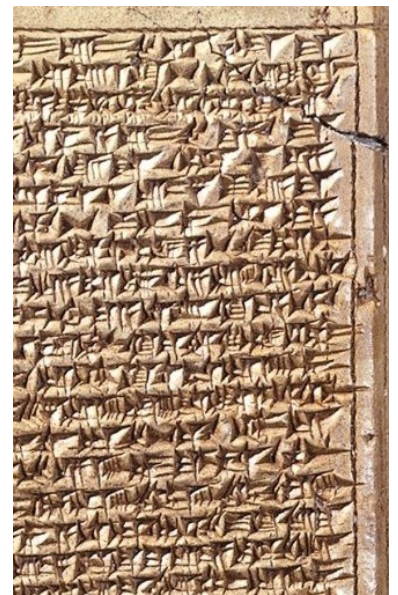
THERE IS A SURPRISING PIECE OF INFORMATION MISSING FROM THIS RECORD. THE FACT THAT SENNACHERIB EVER ENTERED JERUSALEM OR DEFEATED HEZEKIAH!

"SENNACHERIB PUT HIS OWN POLITICAL "SPIN" ON WHAT HAPPENED IN JUDAH, CLAIMING THAT HE "SHUT UP HEZEKIAH IN JERUSALEM, HIS ROYAL CITY, LIKE A BIRD IN A CAGE." BUT THAT'S THE BEST HE CAN SAY. HE BESIEGED JERUSALEM AND NOTHING MORE! NO LISTS OF CAPTURED ENEMIES, NO DESCRIPTIONS OF LOOTING THE CITY, JUST A SILENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT HE CAME HOME EMPTY-HANDED." (SOURCE: "THE BIBLE AND ARCHEOLOGY", PROFESSOR GARY ZACHARIAS, PALOMAR COLLEGE VIA WWW2.PALOMAR.EDU/PAGES/GZACHARIAS/ARCHEOLOGY-AND-THE-BIBLE)

THE BIBLE SAYS THAT AN ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME AND STRUCK 185,000 IN ONE NIGHT. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN QUITE THE NOTABLE EVENT FOR THIS GREAT ARMY. IS THERE ANY RECORD OF THIS?

HERE IS MORE HISTORICAL DETAIL:

HERODOTUS, THE FATHER OF ANCIENT GREEK HISTORY, RECORDS WHAT IS PROBABLY AN EGYPTIAN LEGEND (THAT GREW OUT OF THIS HISTORICAL EVENT); HE SUGGESTS THAT SENNACHERIB'S FIGHTING FORCE WAS GREATLY REDUCED WHEN IN ONE NIGHT, A PLAGUE OF



FIELD MICE GNAWED THE QUIVERS, BOWSTRINGS, AND SHIELD-STRAPS OF HIS SOLDIERS, THUS MAKING THEM SUDDENLY VULNERABLE TO THEIR ENEMIES (CF. EDERSHEIM, BIBLE HISTORY, VII, P.155).

JOSEPHUS QUOTES THE CHALDEAN HISTORIAN BEROSUS AS FOLLOWS:

NOW WHEN SENNACHERIB WAS RETURNING FROM HIS EGYPTIAN WAR TO JERUSALEM, HE FOUND HIS ARMY UNDER RABSHAKEH HIS GENERAL IN DANGER [BY A PLAGUE], FOR GOD HAD SENT A PESTILENTIAL DISTEMPER UPON HIS ARMY; AND ON THE VERY NIGHT OF THE SIEGE, A HUNDRED FOURSCORE AND FIVE THOUSAND, WITH THEIR CAPTAINS AND GENERALS, WERE DESTROYED (ANTIQUITIES 10.1.5). (SOURCE: BIBLE HISTORY ONLINE, "SENNACHERIB'S HEXAGONAL PRISM" VIA [HTTP://WWW.BIBLE-HISTORY.COM/EMPIRES/PRISM.HTML](http://www.bible-history.com/empires/prism.html))

GREEK AND BABYLONIAN HISTORIANS RECORD THAT SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ASSYRIA'S ARMY WHEN IT ENCAMPED AROUND JERUSALEM WHICH DEVASTATED THE FORCE. WOW.

LASTLY, WE KNOW THAT THE BIBLE TOLD US THAT SENNACHERIB WAS KILLED BY HIS SONS UPON RETURNING TO NINEVEH. LOOK WHAT IS RECORDED ON AN ADDITIONAL CLAY TABLET FOUND IN ASSYRIAN RUINS:

'ON THE TWENTIETH DAY OF THE MONTH TEBET SENNACHERIB KING OF ASSYRIA HIS SON SLEW HIM IN REBELLION... ESARHADDON HIS SON SAT ON THE THRONE OF ASSYRIA.' (SOURCE: IBID)

GOD'S WORD IS TRUE. THE BIBLE SAYS THAT HEZEKIAH MADE A TUNNEL AND BROUGHT WATER INTO THE CITY. AND THAT IS WHAT HAPPENED. ARCHEOLOGICAL FINDS CONFIRM THIS. THE BIBLE SAYS THAT SENNACHERIB BESIEGED JERUSALEM AND THEN WAS DEFEATED IN A MIRACULOUS WAY AND THAT IS WHAT HAPPENED. THESE FINDINGS CONFIRM THE BIBLICAL STORY AND CAN STIR OUR HEARTS IN EXCITEMENT ONLY INCREASING OUR FAITH. WE WORSHIP A GOD THAT CAN BE TRUSTED AND WHO HAS INSPIRED THE BIBLE TO BE THE VERY FOUNDATION OUR LIVES. OUR LIVES CAN BE SECURELY BUILT UPON GOD'S WORD.