

li Kings 19:14

by Chuck Smith

When faced with a situation that's more than we can handle, we should turn to the Lord for help and deliverance.

Scripture: Isaiah 37:14, 1 Peter 5:7

Topics: "Trust in God", "Divine Deliverance"

Description

Chuck Smith emphasizes the importance of turning to God in times of overwhelming stress and pressure, as exemplified by King Hezekiah's response to the threatening letter from Sennacherib, the king of Assyria. Hezekiah, faced with a seemingly insurmountable problem, chose to lay his burdens before the Lord, acknowledging both God's sovereignty and the reality of his dire situation. Through prayer, Hezekiah sought God's help, which led to divine intervention and deliverance from the Assyrian threat. Smith encourages listeners to recognize where they turn for help in their own crises, highlighting that true relief comes from God alone. The sermon concludes with the powerful reminder of God's ability to save and protect those who trust in Him.

Transcript

Intro: Our lives are filled with stress and pressure situations, we learn to adjust and live with it. There invariably comes that time when the situation is more than we can handle and we must reach out beyond ourselves.

I. HEZEKIAH'S PROBLEM THE THREATENING LETTER OF SENNACHERIE KING OF ASSYRIA.

A. He threatened to invade and destroy.

1. The Assyrians had conquered every nation they faced even stronger nations.

2. Assyria was very cruel.

a. History records mass suicides.

B. He discouraged them trusting in God for help.

1. He pointed out the ineptness of the other nations' gods against his military might.

C. It was like having a big bully telling you how many ways he was going to beat your face in.

II. HEZEKIAH TURNED TO THE LORD FOR HELP.

A. He went into the house of the Lord and spread out the letter before Him.

1. He placed the whole scene in God's hands.

a. "Cast all your cares upon Him,..."

b. He wants you to come today with your heavy heart, your problem.

c. How do you know but what God has not allowed these things to turn you to Him.

B. Hezekiah's Prayer.

1. Acknowledged truth about God.

a. Only true God

b. Created universe. (see problem in right perspective..)

2. Asked God to look at letter.

a. Look what he is saying about you.

3. Acknowledged truth about situation.

a. Assyrians are tough.

b. Have defeated everybody else.

c. Have destroyed other gods.

4. Asked God's help and deliverance.

C. Where we turn for help in time of need is vital.

1. Some reach out to the bottle.

a. Booze.

b. Pills.

c. Neither solves the problem but usually compounds it.

2. Many reach out to friends.

a. You can sure discover who they are.

b. Often all they can give is sympathy.

c. They can share in the despair.

IV. THE RESULT OF TURNING TO THE LORD.

A. The Lord sent Hezekiah a message via the prophet Isaiah.

1. I have heard your prayer.

2. God dictated a reply to the letter.

3. God promised to defend the city and save it.

B. God's deliverance.

1. That night the angel smote the camp of the Assyrians killing 185,000.

2. The king fled back to Assyria where he was assassinated.

C. How different the story could have been.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/chuck-smith/ii-kings-1914/>

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