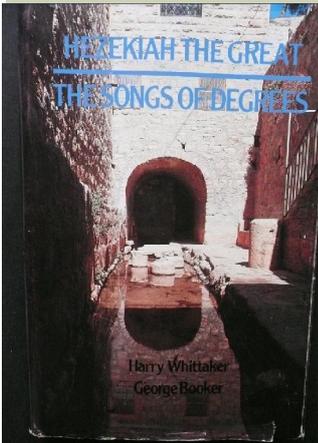


HEZEKIAH

'Strengthened of Yah'

HEZEKIAH



Hezekiah is without doubt one of the greatest characters of the OT. He has not been accorded the attention or admiration that he deserves. And his reign was one of the most exciting in all world history. More than this, we need an understanding of Hezekiah and his times to make real sense of Isaiah or many of the Psalms, of Micah and Joel, and probably other parts of the OT.

Harry Whittaker

TEST OF A PROPHET

Deut 18:14-21

You may say to yourselves:

“You may say to yourselves: ‘How can we know when a message has NOT been spoken by the Lord?’

If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does NOT take place OR come true, that is a message the Lord has NOT spoken.

The prophet has spoken presumptuously.
Do not be afraid of him.



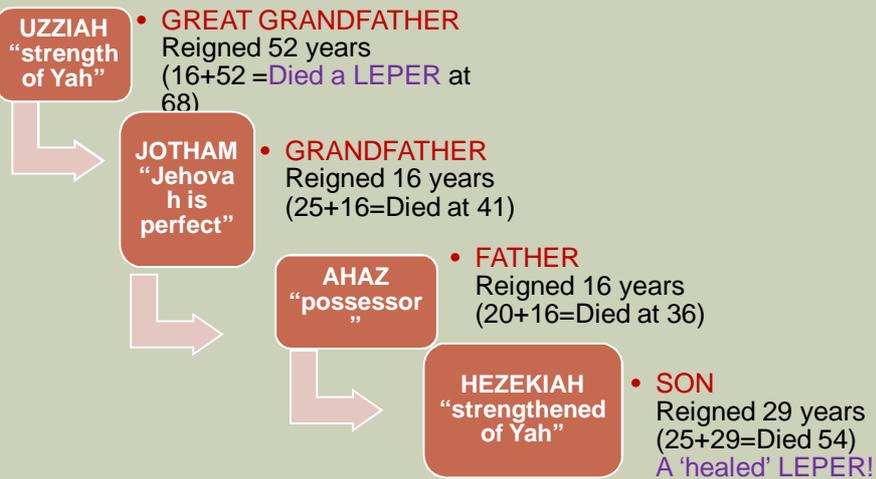
'THE VISION CONCERNING JUDAH & JERUSALEM...Chapter 1

v2 Hear O heavens!
Listen O earth...
Israel does not know,
My people do not understand.

v6 ...your whole head is sick and your whole heart afflicted
From the sole of your foot to the top of your head
there is no soundness –
only wounds and welts and open sores,
not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with oil.

v10 Hear the word of the Lord you rulers of Sodom
Listen to the law of our God you people of Gomorrah!

" DURING THE REIGNS OF...



AHAZ, ASK A SIGN OF THE LORD YOUR GOD! Chapter 7

The Band Aide Effect!

Go out, **you** and your son **Shear-jashub** to meet **Ahaz** at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool on the road to the Washerman's Field. (v3)



Will you try the patience of my God also?
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son
and will call him **Immanuel**. (v14)

The Lord will bring the **King of Assyria** to shave your head (v17)

"O IMMANUEL...GOD WITH US"

Chapter 8

Therefore the Lord is about to bring against them the mighty **floodwaters of the River** – the King of Assyria with all his pomp.

It will overflow all its channels, run over all its banks and sweep on into Judah swirling over it, passing through it and reaching up to the neck.

It's outspread wings will cover the breadth of your land,
O Immanuel! (v7-8)



HEZEKIAH – WHAT DO WE THINK OF?

1. Musicians and Singers brought back
2. The great inclusive Passover held
3. Destruction of the Brazen Serpent
4. Preparation to "flood-proof" Jerusalem
5. The inundation of the Assyrian flood
6. Temple cleaned out and doors reopened

HEZEKIAH – WHAT ELSE DO WE THINK OF?

7. That letter!
8. Hezekiah's terminal illness
9. Annihilation of the Assyrian host & Sennacherib's murder
10. The miraculous sign where the shadow goes backwards
11. Hezekiah healed and his life extended 15 years

Marries Hephzibah

Acts foolishly in the matter of the Babylonian envoys

Becomes a father with the birth of his son

TEMPLE CLEANED OUT AND DOORS REOPENED – 2 Chron 29



- “In the 1st month on the 1st day of the month, he **opened the doors** of the temple of the Lord and **repaired** them.
- Remove all the **defilement** from the sanctuary.
- Our fathers...**shut** the doors of the portico and put out the lamps.”

THE POWER OF ONE TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE!

MUSICIANS AND SINGERS BROUGHT BACK

2 Chron 29:25-28

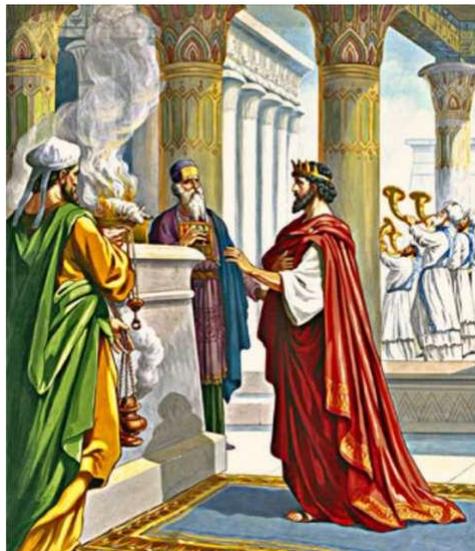
He stationed the **Levites** in the temple of the Lord with **cymbals, harps and lyres**.



“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord”!

So the **Levites** stood ready with David’s instruments and the **priests** with their **trumpets...while** the **singers** sang and the **trumpeters** played.

THE GREAT INCLUSIVE PASSOVER HELD



Messengers sent out

Passover celebrated

Many responded



DESTRUCTION OF THE BRAZEN SERPENT

2 Kings 18:4



“He broke in pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it.

It was called Nehushtan.”

(piece of brass)

PREPARATION TO PROTECT JERUSALEM



What is critical need in a time of flood?

- Fresh water–
Hezekiah's tunnel
- Levee banks–
he built up the walls and towers of Jerusalem
- Morale–
he encouraged the people

2 Chron 32:4-5:

“They blocked all the springs and the stream that flowed through the land. Then he worked hard repairing the broken sections of the wall.”

INUNDATION BY THE ASSYRIAN FLOOD



“After that Hezekiah had so faithfully done, Sennacherib king of Assyria, came and invaded Judah. He laid siege to the fortified cities, thinking to conquer them for himself.

‘Be strong and courageous

With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.’

And the people gained confidence from what Hezekiah the King of Judah said.

(2 Chron32:1)

THAT LETTER!



“O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, **enthroned between the cherubim**, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth.

You have made heaven and earth.

Give ear O Lord, and hear: open your eyes O Lord, and see: listen to all the words Sennacherib has sent to insult the living God...

Now O Lord our God deliver us from his hand, **so that** all kingdoms on earth may know that you alone O Lord, are God.”

(Is37:14-20)

YOU SHALL DIE! YOU SHALL NOT LIVE!



“In **those** days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death.

‘Put your house in order because you are going to die; you will not recover.

And Hezekiah wept bitterly!

‘I have heard your prayer and seen your tears:

I will add 15 years to your life

AND

I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the King of Assyria.

I will defend this city.

(Isaiah 38:1-6)

WHAT WILL BE THE SIGN?



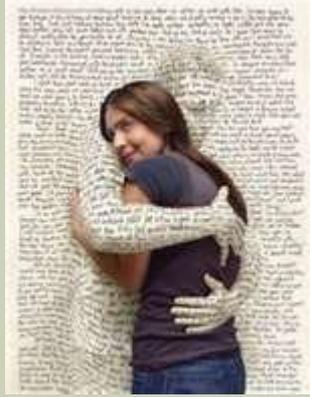
This is the Lord's sign to you that the Lord will do what he has promised:

I will make the shadow cast by the sun go back the ten steps it has gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.

So the sunlight went back the ten steps it had gone down.

(Isaiah 38:7-8)

IMMANUEL – GOD WITH US!



Arise, shine, for **your** light has come and the glory of the Lord rises upon **you**.

See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon **you** and his glory appears over **you**.

Nations will come to **your** light and kings to the brightness of **your** dawn.

(Isaiah 60:1-3)