HEZEKIAH – THE BOASTER
Part VII
2 Kings 20:12-21

MAIN THOUGHT Good King Hezekiah (729-686 BC), the best king Judah ever had, was a REFORMER, NEGOTIATOR, INTERCESSOR, VICTOR, SUFFERER, SINGER, and BOASTER in his exceptional life.


- Two miracles (shadow on steps / Assyrian defeat) brought the upstart Babylonians, rivals of Assyria, to Jerusalem with gifts to honor Hezekiah.
- The Babylonians worshiped the SUN; because God showed his power over it (the shadow and steps), they came to investigate like the wise men of Jesus’ day who followed the Eastern Star (Matt. 2:1-2).

“These miracles were wrought to alarm and awaken a stupid careless world, and turn them from dumb and lame idols to the living God; and men were startled by them, but not converted till a greater wonder was done in that land, in the appearing of Jesus Christ” (Matt. 2:1-2).

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- Perhaps they were looking for a potential ally against Assyria.
- When Satan cannot defeat us as a roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8) or a dragon (Rev. 20:2), he will come as a deceiving serpent (2 Cor. 11:3).
- God tested Hezekiah (2 Chron. 32:31) with the goal of success while Satan tempted him with the goal of failure (Jam. 1:13).
- Hezekiah’s PRIDE caused him to sin by showing off his wealth and success (2 Chron. 32:25-30) to potential and future enemies (95 years later in 606 BC)!
- PRIDE (Prov. 16:18; Isa. 28:1-5) brings a man low (1 Pet. 5:5).

ISAIAH’S PROPHECY (14-18; Isa. 39:3-8).

- Isaiah reminded him he was only a caretaker, not the owner (1 Cor. 4:7).
- Isaiah asked him WHAT and WHERE. Hezekiah only answered from WHERE – Babylon and not the WHAT – the diplomatic purpose of their visit.
- Hezekiah showed them everything revealing his pride.
- Isaiah uttered a prophecy that one day (606, 597, 586 BC), beginning in 95 years after five more Judean kings (4 evil / 1 good – Josiah), ALL that had been stored up would be taken away by Babylon!
- Even some of his own royal family were taken to Babylon (Dan. 1:2-3).

THE LORD’S PATIENCE (19-21).

- It was not so much relief that he would escape judgment in his lifetime, but that he had repented (2 Chron. 32:26) and accepted the will of God.
- His legacy – the pool and tunnel; honored by all in death (2 Chron. 32:33).