

Kings Series

Lesson #115

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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Hezekiah's Response to International Intimidation (2): Prayer 2 Kings 19:1–7



**Logical
Sequence**

Application

**Political/national or
individual actions**

Ethics: right or wrong

**Epistemology: knowing
right or wrong—the Bible**

**Metaphysics: ultimate
reality, i.e., God**

Pressures of Life

Hezekiah Parallels with Today

- 1. Hezekiah faced an enemy which sought to destroy their nation.**
- 2. The enemy used a religious framework to attempt to intimidate the Jews.**
- 3. Judah as a nation was not the aggressor and was not responsible for the attack and was not seeking to expand their dominion or empire.**
- 4. Assyria, on the basis of their pagan worldview and desire for world domination, did seek to dominate the gods of the other nations and to impose their culture on others.**

Hezekiah Parallels with Today

- 1. We face an enemy which seeks to destroy our nation.**
- 2. The enemy uses a religious rationale to intimidate the West.**
- 3. The US and the West are not the aggressors.**
- 4. Islam, a pagan worldview, religion, and legal system, known as sharia law, seeks to dominate the West.**

Jer. 17:5, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD.

Jer. 17:6, “ ‘For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when good comes, but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land which is not inhabited.’ ”

Jer. 17:7, “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD.

Jer. 17:8, “For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit.”

The Cycles of Civilization

Man begins his existence in bondage,
and rises from bondage through spiritual faith,
from spiritual faith to courage,
from courage to liberty,
from liberty to abundance,
from abundance to selfishness,
from selfishness to complacency,
from complacency to apathy,
from apathy to dependency,
from dependency back into bondage.

2 Chronicles 31:20, “Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah; and he did what was good, right and true before the Lord his God.

2 Chronicles 31:21, “Every work which he began in the service of the house of God in law and in commandment, seeking his God, he did with all his heart and prospered.”

2 Kings 18:5, “He trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel; so that after him there was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor among those who were before him.”

2 Kings 19:4, “ ‘It may be that the Lord your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to **reproach** the living God, and will rebuke the words which the Lord your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’ ”

חָרַף (*ḥārap*) I, reproach, blaspheme, defy, jeopardize, rail, reproach, upbraid. Reproach, rebuke, taunt, mock, insult.

2 Kings 19:4, “ ‘It may be that the Lord your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach **the living God, and will rebuke the words which **the Lord your God** has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’ ”**

2 Kings 19:4, “ ‘It may be that the Lord your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will **rebuke** the words which the Lord your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’ ”

יָכַח (*yākah*) decide, judge, prove, rebuke, reprove, correct.

2 Kings 19:6, “And Isaiah said to them, ‘Thus you shall say to your master, “Thus says the LORD: **‘Do not be afraid** of the words which you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.’ ” ’ ”

2 Kings 19:4, “ ‘It may be that the Lord your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the Lord your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’ ”

Gen. 15:1, “After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward’.”

Deut. 3:22, “You must not fear them, for the LORD your God Himself fights for you.”

Deut. 31:8, “And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.”

Josh. 8:1, “Now the LORD said to Joshua: ‘Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; take all the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land.’ ”

Josh. 10:25, “Then Joshua said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; be strong and of good courage, for thus the LORD will do to all your enemies against whom you fight.’ ”

Judg. 6:10, “Also I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; do not fear the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell.’ But you have not obeyed My voice.”

Psa. 27:3, “Though an army may encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war may rise against me, in this I will be confident.”

**Psa. 112:7, “He will not be afraid of evil tidings;
his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.”**

Psa. 118:6, “The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

Isa. 41:10, “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

Isa. 41:13, “For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you.’ ”

Jer. 17:8, “For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit.”

How Should Christians Respond to Moslem Assaults?

- 1. Think in terms of a biblical worldview: earthly conflicts are the result of and are influenced by spiritual warfare.**

Eph. 6:11, “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Eph. 6:12, “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

How Should Christians Respond to Moslem Assaults?

- 2. Conflicts on the earth reflect Satan's strategy of world domination through false religions and false philosophies.**

How Should Christians Respond to Moslem Assaults?

3. As Christians our prime directive is to present the gospel.

Tension comes when as Christians, spiritual warfare irrupts as international tension, war, or criminality.

Loving your enemy OR killing your enemy

Loving your enemy AND killing your enemy (protecting priorities of individual life, family life, national life).

How Should Christians Respond to Moslem Assaults?

Wrong responses

Personal animosity

Quran burning
Mosque defacing
Personal insults

Placating the enemy as a result of intimidation

MassBible (the Massachusetts Bible Society) said:

“As people of the Book, we are joined to Islam and Judaism in a special way and as an organisation that has sought to put that Book into people's hands for 201 years, we cannot stand idly by while the sacred text of a ‘sister religion’ is burned as our beloved Bibles once were.”

“Lest Muslim culture believe that the Rev. Jones’ position represents that of all Christians, MassBible is prepared to take a counter action. For two centuries we have given the Bible to those without access. In response to the Rev. Jones’ despicable act, we are prepared to give away two Qur'ans for every one that Rev. Jones burns.”

“The Qur'ans will go to prisons, hospitals, shelters, or to any place where there are Muslims without access to their sacred text.”

“This in no way diminishes our belief in the Bible as the Word of God.[?] On the contrary, it is acting on the command within its pages to love our neighbours as ourselves (Leviticus 19:18) and to do unto others as we would have done unto us (Matthew 7:12).”