

Royal Lessons for Life

Hezekiah

(Judah)

Hezekiah's Biography

- Hezekiah breaks from his father's wicked way to follow the Lord – II Kings 18:3, II Chronicles 29:2
- His first actions are to restore true worship – in the first month of the first year of his reign – II Chronicles 29:3
 - He pushed to abolish idolatry, including destroying the Brazen Serpent that Moses made – II Kings 18:4
 - The Temple is repaired, and its services restored – II Chronicles 29:3-36
 - Passover is observed with many attending from Israel – II Chronicles 30
 - The priesthood and its provision are restored – II Chronicles 31
- He wins military victories and rebels against Assyria – II Kings 18:7-8
 - He improves the defenses of his kingdom, including digging the Siloam Tunnel – II Kings 20:20, II Chronicles 32:2-4,30
- Six years into his reign Israel falls to Assyria – II Kings 18:9-10
- 14 years into his reign, Assyria returns and pressures Judah into paying tribute – II Kings 18:13-16.
- Not satisfied, the Assyrians besieged Jerusalem – II Chronicles 32:1-8
 - An envoy of Tartan (“field marshal”), Rabsaris (“chief eunuch”), and Rabshakeh (“chief officer”) to seek a surrender – II Kings 18:17-37
 - Sennacherib sends a threatening letter - II Chronicles 32:9-19
 - Isaiah prophesies of their coming deliverance – II Chronicles 32:20
 - God delivers Judah – II Kings 19:35-36, II Chronicles 32:21-22,
- Around this time, he is deathly ill, but God heals him and promises him another 15 years of life – II Kings 20:1-11, II Chronicles 32:24, Isaiah 38:1-22
 - Hezekiah prospered after this, but was lifted up in pride - II Chronicles 32:23-30
- He foolishly shows off his wealth to ambassadors from Babylon – II Kings 20:12-29, Isaiah 39:18, II Chronicles 32:31, Isaiah 37:36-37
- Hezekiah dies after reigning for 29 years and leaves the throne to his son Manasseh – II Kings 20:20-21, II Chronicles 32:32-33

Lesson from the Life of Hezekiah

- Hezekiah was a man for “such a time as this”. He was faithful and resolute after the fall of Israel and during Assyrian campaigns. – Esther 4:14
- Hezekiah fell into a state of complacency, caring only for his own time and not building a better future for his kingdom or children. – see Isaiah 39:8