

# You talking to me?

Today I want to encourage you from one of the greatest stories in the Bible.

For the sake of time I'm gonna give you the Reader's Digest version.

Isa 36:1 (NASB) Now in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Sennacherib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and seized them.

Isa 36:7 (NASB) "But if you say to me, 'We trust in the LORD our God,' is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away and has said to Judah and to Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar' ?

Isa 37:10-12 (NASB) "Thus you shall say to Hezekiah king of Judah, 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." [11] 'Behold, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all the lands, destroying them completely. So will you be spared? [12] 'Did the gods of those nations which my fathers have destroyed deliver them, even Gozan and Haran and Rezech and the sons of Eden who were in Telassar?

Isa 36:10-16 (NASB) "Have I now come up without the LORD'S approval against this land to destroy it? The LORD said to me, 'Go up against this land and destroy it.' [11] Then Eliakim and Shebna and Joah said to Rabshakeh, "Speak now to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it; and do not speak with us in Judean in the hearing of the people who are on the wall." [12] But Rabshakeh said, "Has my master sent me only to your master and to you to speak these words, and not to the men who sit on the wall, doomed to eat their own dung and drink their own urine with you?" [13] Then Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in Judean and said, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria. [14] "Thus says the king, 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you; [15] nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, "The LORD will surely deliver us, this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." [16] 'Do not listen to Hezekiah,' ....

Isa 37:1 (NASB) And when King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth and entered the house of the LORD.

Isa 37:5-7 (NASB) So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah. [6] Isaiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to your master, 'Thus says the LORD,

"Do not be afraid because of the **words** that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. [7] "Behold, I will put a spirit in him so that he will hear a rumor and return to his own land. And I will make him fall by the sword in his own land.""

Isa 37:22 (NASB) this is the word that the LORD has spoken against him:  
"She has despised you and mocked you, The virgin daughter of Zion; **She has shaken her head behind you,** The daughter of Jerusalem!

The enemy of God's people had a record of victory, actually this enemy had never been defeated.

## Lessons:—

1. That a people may be doing all the right things, and yet meet with trouble and distress.
2. That we must never no matter how good things are put our trust in circumstances.

### 3. **Wickedness may prosper a while, but cannot prosper always.**

The people had heard two reports.

1. From the representative of Sennacherib - Your leader has betrayed you, your God has lied to you and things are going to get so bad, inflation is going to go so high, the economy is going to go so low that you will eat your own dung and drink your own urine.
2. From the representative of God - "Do not be afraid because of the **words** that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. [7] "Behold, I will put a spirit in him so that he will hear a rumor and return to his own land. And I will make him fall by the sword in his own land.""

They had a choice, I have a choice, you have a choice, we have a choice - Whose Report will you believe?

This is a war of words.

It is always a war of words.

Reassured by the Word of the Lord, the inferior citizens of Zion grew bold, and **shook their heads** at Sennacherib's boastful threats.

*\*story of the radio station*

Instead of trembling in our boots we need to be shaking our heads.

**Strong faith enables the servants of God to look with calm contempt upon their most arrogant foes.**

Contempt - the feeling that a person or a thing is beneath consideration, worthless, or deserving scorn

**Psa 23:5 (NASB) You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows.**

We love the promise of being served a feast in the presence of our enemies while they watch.

But just who are these enemies? In biblical terms, there are the demonic kind and the human kind. In **Psalm 23**, David is referring to demonic enemies; these represent the devil and all his hellish principalities and powers.

According to Jesus, **“The enemy ... is the devil” (Matthew 13:39).**

Yet, many of our enemies aren't from hell. When Jesus tells us to love our enemies (**Matthew 5:44**), he isn't speaking of the devil and his hordes. He is talking about people in our lives who have become tools used by Satan to make us miserable. It was David's fleshly enemies who caused him to cry, **“Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies; in You I take shelter” (Psalm 143:9).**

You may have only a few human enemies or you may have an abundance, depending on your sphere of influence.

In any case, if you have your heart set to follow Jesus, you will be an offense to some. And you're going to be resisted by both nonbelievers and carnal Christians alike.

You will be marked as a target by the devil and his wicked spirits; your adversary, the devil, is going to attack you physically and spiritually. And he'll stir up trouble for you among your human enemies, if he can.

The Lord's supernatural feast becomes even more amazing because both classes of enemies have to sit by and watch as the Lord serves you.

God's Word says of the righteous, "His enemies I will clothe with shame, but upon Himself His crown shall flourish" (Psalm 132:18). God is saying, in essence, "Your fleshly enemies thought you were finished, but now they can only gaze in wonder as I feed and bless you."

On the occasion that you fail him and feel that Satan has gained a foothold in your life, the Lord waves you in and says, "Come to the feast. Sit down and taste of my mercy. I want you feasting at my table in the presence of your enemies."

\*We must know that our enemies are attempting impossibilities.

Lets say that together. **"MY ENEMIES ARE ATTEMPTING IMPOSSIBILITIES."**

They seek to destroy the eternal life, which cannot die while Jesus lives; to overthrow the Good News, against which the gates of hell shall not prevail.

We know their weakness.

What are they but men? And what is man but a worm?

Above all, we know that the Most High is with us, and when he rolls up his sleeves, where are his enemies?

Back in the 80's we used to sing a song

**Our God Is An Awesome God  
He Reigns From Heaven Above  
With Wisdom Power And Love  
Our God Is An Awesome God**

**When He Rolls Up His Sleeves  
He Ain't Just Putting On The Ritz  
Our God Is An Awesome God**

**There Is Thunder In His Footsteps  
And Lightning In His Fists  
Our God Is An Awesome God**

**I Hope That We Have Not  
Too Quickly Forgotten  
That Our God Is An Awesome God**

Psalm 98 The Message Bible 1 Sing to God a brand-new song. He's made a world of wonders! He rolled up his sleeves, He set things right.

2 God made history with salvation, He showed the world what he could do.

3 He remembered to love us, a bonus To his dear family, Israel - indefatigable love. The whole earth comes to attention. Look - God's work of salvation!

4 Shout your praises to God, everybody! Let loose and sing! Strike up the band!

5 Round up an orchestra to play for God, Add on a hundred-voice choir.

6 Feature trumpets and big trombones, Fill the air with praises to King God.

7 Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause, With everything living on earth joining in.

8 Let ocean breakers call out, "Encore!" And mountains harmonize the finale

Lets go back to Isa and find out what happened to Sennacherib the booger eater.

Isa 37:36-37 (NASB) Then the angel of the LORD went out and struck 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men arose early in the morning, behold, all of these were dead. [37] So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and returned home and lived at Nineveh.

History tells us that has the enemy that survived packed up their things and turned around and went home the way they came the very people

who had been told they would eat their own dung and drink their own urine stood on the city walls and shook their heads.

Sennacherib the booger eater went home without fanfare. Embarrassed, Ashamed. Defeated.

He was so looked down upon by his own people that while he was worshipping his god his sons killed with with his sword.

**Psalms 27:1-3 (NASB)**

**27:1** *A Psalm of David.* The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread?

**2** When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.

**3** Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In *spite of this* I shall be confident.