

## Thursday Evening Bible Study Series: **The Book of Isaiah**

### Teaching Summary for Week 39

#### Chapters 36 and 37

Chapters 36-39 make up a historical narrative of events during the rule of king Hezekiah in Jerusalem. Chapters 36 and 37 close out the Assyrian threat to Judah with a miraculous deliverance by the Lord. Chapters 38 and 39 focus on Hezekiah's life afterwards. It's a story of answered prayer, a foolhardy decision, and a prophesy of future ruin at the hands of the Babylonians, who will take Israel into exile. In this way, chapters 36-39 serve as the bridge between the prophecies of chapters 1-35 and those of chapters 40-66. You will find parallel accounts in 2 Kings 18-19 and 2 Chronicles 32:1-23.

Here's an outline of chapters 36 & 37:

<b>Verses</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>36:1-22</b>	The taunts from Sennacherib, king of Assyria
<b>37:1-5</b>	Hezekiah turns to Isaiah, the prophet of the LORD
<b>37:6-7</b>	Thus says the LORD
<b>37:8-13</b>	The message from the Assyrian commander
<b>37:14-20</b>	The great prayer of Hezekiah
<b>37:21-35</b>	Thus says the LORD
<b>37:36-38</b>	The great victory of the LORD

**Let's read chapters 36 and 37 together now.**

## Discussion Guide

1. In 36:5, Rabshakeh unknowingly put his finger on the crux of the issue in chapters 1-35. What is that?
2. In what ways is Sennacherib like satan?
3. What fatal error does Sennacherib make repeatedly in chapters 36 & 37? What lesson did the Lord teach him? See Isa 36:18-20; 37:4,6, 10-12, 14-20,23-24, 28-29,35. Who else in the Bible learned that lesson?
4. What makes Hezekiah's prayer in 37:14-20 so magnificent?
5. What reasons did Isaiah give not to trust Sennacherib?
6. What reasons does Judah have to trust the Lord instead? Hint: who has kept His word, and who hasn't?
7. Had the LORD delivered Israel miraculously in the past? Give a few examples.
8. Has the LORD already fulfilled any prophecies He gave through Isaiah in prior chapters? See 5:5-7, 26-30; 6:11-13; 7:1-9, 14-25; 8:1-8; 9:8-10:11; 30:1-17; 33:7-9.
9. Had the Lord promised, through the prophet Isaiah, that He would deliver Jerusalem from the Assyrians by destroying their military? See 10:5-34; 14:24-27; 29:1-8; 31:4-9; 33:1-19. How about in chapter 37 itself?
10. What lessons can we learn from chapters 36 & 37 that apply to our lives today?