

More Than Talk

9-6-20

2 Kings 19:35 (ESV)

And that night the angel of the LORD went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies.

As we look at all the nonsense in this world plus the difficult things, we face every day, it is good to know God is more than talk. Hezekiah believed God was more than talk. This verse shows God's faithfulness to answer Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance. **However, where did this start and what can we learn from it? For Hezekiah it all starts with a ruthless attack by the Assyrian Empire. Important: This is not only an attack on Judah but an attack on God. **Anti-God attacks will always lift up man and government above God.** Therefore, when we trust in God, it directly confronts man and government as the ultimate authority. Listen to how familiar the attacks on God nearly 3000 years ago sound almost identical to the attacks we hear today.**

2 Chronicles 32:15 (ESV)

Now, therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or mislead you in this fashion, and do not believe him, for no god of any nation or kingdom has been able to deliver his people from my hand or from the hand of my fathers. **How much less will your God deliver you out of my hand!**

Man and government is the ultimate authority. They say, "Don't believe this God nonsense; Look at this massive army; Look at your own hopeless situation. No help is coming!"

They even write nasty letters, emails, Facebook and Twitter posts attacking God and our foolish position.

2 Chronicles 32:16–17 (ESV)

¹⁶They said still more against the LORD God and against his servant Hezekiah. ¹⁷And he wrote letters to cast contempt on the LORD, the God of Israel, and to speak against him, saying, **“The God of Hezekiah will not deliver his people from my hand.”**

They say, “Your God will not help you.” However, when we are in these dilemmas, we know where to go.

2 Kings 19:14 (ESV)

Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD and spread it before the LORD.

Many times, I have done this very thing. I laid my situation before the Lord and showed it to HIM. I have written the things that were heavy on my heart and spread them out before the LORD for HIM to see.

2 Kings 19:15–16 (ESV) (No O/H)

¹⁵And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said: “O LORD, the God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth. ¹⁶Incline your ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.”

We declare our God alone is God. HE made the heavens and earth. We pray, “Dear God hear, Dear God see, Dear God hear the words of those that are mocking YOU.” By doing this, I have seen answers. However, no matter what, I knew without question that God hears just as the prophet Isaiah told Hezekiah.

2 Kings 19:20–21 (ESV) (No O/H)

²⁰Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Your prayer to me about Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard. ²¹This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him:

God says I have heard your prayer. Now God speaks to the King of Assyria as HE also speaks to our problem.

2 Kings 19:25 (ESV)

Have you not heard
that I determined it long ago?
I planned from days of old
what now I bring to pass.

God knows what is going on. Our situation is not surprise to God. HE is more than talk and God tells Hezekiah this King is not a threat. This King is only a pawn in God’s divine government carrying out God’s divine work.

2 Kings 19:27 (ESV)

But I know your sitting down
and your going out and coming in,
and your raging against me.

God informs this nonbelieving Gentile king that he was aware of his every action, including his blasphemous insolence.

Likewise, our own tribulations are known by God and have a greater meaning and purpose than we can imagine. Be secure that God sees, hears, and knows everything and is working everything for our good. When surrounded by our problems, we need to see God as more than talk. With this, we gain strength to hold steadfast. Like Hezekiah God will deliver us.

The Almighty God says this is truth for Today! The Christian life is more than talk!

1 Corinthians 4:20 (ESV)

For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.

We say we are too weak, but God says we are perfect to show HIS power! We as jars of clay show that our power is from God and that the Christian life is more than talk!

2 Corinthians 4:7 (ESV)

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

God tells us that HE can do much more than we can imagine!

Ephesians 3:20 (ESV)

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power "at work" within us,

At work = to put forth power, to work effectually, or to be effectual.

There is a power within us that “puts forth power” so we can be effectual. This is a powerful truth which God intends for us to fully embrace. **With this powerful truth is a warning!** Stay away from people who have the appearance of godliness but deny the power of God! These people have a negative impact on God’s people.

2 Timothy 3:5 (ESV)

These people having the appearance of godliness but denying its power. Avoid such people.

All these sweet people with no power infects others with their powerlessness. But we trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. We are fully convinced that God can do more than anything we ask or imagine by the power that is at work within us. Therefore, we declare with confidence that God is more than talk.

2 Timothy 1:12 (ESV)

I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me.