

## Yerushalayim's Deliverance Foretold ~ Part 3

### Yesha'hayu 37:21-29

In my last post, we continued to learn about **Yerushalayim's Deliverance Foretold ~ Part 2** in **Yesha'hayu 37:1-10**. In this post, we continue in our mini-series of **Yerushalayim's Deliverance Foretold ~ Part 3** in **Yesha'hayu 37:21-29**.

***<sup>21</sup> Then Yesha'yahu, the son of Amotz, sent this message to Hizkiyahu: "Adonai the God of Isra'el says: 'You prayed to me against Sancheriv king of Ashur.'***

**Adonai** responded to **Hizkiyahu** through His divinely chosen prophet **Yesha'yahu**. **Yesha'yahu** spoke in the name of **Adonai**. I don't know about you, but I've only experienced one-time in my walk with **Yeshua** when I spoke out in a situation a message that I believed was from the Lord and it was very unsettling for me, although it was well-received with the person I shared it.

***<sup>22</sup> Here is Adonai's answer concerning him: "The virgin daughter of Tziyon despises you; she laughs you to scorn. The daughter of Yerushalayim shakes her head at you.***

As we have seen earlier, **daughter of Tziyon** is a personification of **Tziyon**, the holiest location in **Y'hudah**. This reminds the reader of the intimate relationship **Adonai** enjoyed with His people. The response was addressed to none other than **Sancheriv**, so the use of this title for **Adonai's** people shows from the start how important they were to Him.

***<sup>23</sup> Whom have you taunted and insulted? Against whom have you raised your voice and haughtily lifted your eyes? The Holy One of Isra'el!***

**Sancheriv** was accustomed to serving powerless gods who could neither see, hear, nor speak (Psalm 135:15-17). Here, however, he had come up against the **Holy One of Isra'el**, the **Creator** rather than the created. His **taunts** and **insults** were nothing more than idol threats.

***<sup>24</sup> "Through your servants you taunted Adonai. You said, "With my many chariots I have ascended the mountain heights even in the far reaches of the L'vanon. I cut down its tall cedars and its best cypress trees. I reached its remotest heights and its best forests. <sup>25</sup> I dug [wells] and drank the water. The soles of my [soldiers'] feet dried up all the rivers of Egypt."***

**L'vanon's** cedar forests were well known throughout the ancient Near East. **Sancheriv** had boasted that he was able to travel to **Egypt**. These are allusions to the **Ashurim's** self-proclaimed capability to overcome any physical obstacle in their path of conquest.

***<sup>26</sup> "Haven't you heard? Long ago I made it; in antiquity I produced it; and now I am making it happen: you are turning fortified cities into heaps of ruins, <sup>27</sup> while their inhabitants, shorn of power, are disheartened and ashamed, weak as grass, frail as plants, like grass on the rooftops or grain scorched by the east wind.***

Now **Adonai** revealed to **Sancheriv** the true nature of things. **Sancheriv** had boasted of his achievements, but **Adonai** announced that he had done nothing without divine design. **Sancheriv's** victories had come about only because **Adonai** had willed it.

***<sup>28</sup> "But I know when you sit when you leave when you enter — and when you rage against me.***

In language reminiscent of Psalm 139, **Adonai** asserted His extensive knowledge of the **Ashurim** king. All the while the **Ashurim** thought it was their might and ingenuity that enabled them to devour any nation at will, they were only able to do so by **Adonai's** permission (see Isaiah 10:5-6).

***<sup>29</sup> And because of your rage against me, because of your pride that has reached my ears, I am putting my hook in your nose and my bridle on your lips; and I will make you return by the way on which you came.***

It was **Ashurim** practice to put a hook in the nose or the mouth of captives as they carried them into exile. **Adonai** told **Sancheriv** that he would be subjected to this brutal and degrading treatment. <sup>1</sup>

In my next post, we conclude our mini-series in **Yerushalayim's Deliverance Foretold ~ Part 4** in **Yesha'yahu 37:1-38**.

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<sup>1</sup> Jon Courson's Application Commentary Old Testament Volume 2.