



# Our Strong Tower

33 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there nor come before it with shields, nor cast a bank against it.

34 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the

LORD.

Isaiah 37:33-34

Complete safety!

# Our Strong Tower

The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Proverbs 18:10

# Our Strong Tower

- <sup>2</sup> From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
- For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy.
- 4 I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.

Psalm 61:2-4

2nd Boo

ומתר מנדת מוכר לליה מרדת מוכר באשר היתה באמנה התם ומרדכי יושב ב ותרש שני מרים: לשלח יד במרך א יונד לאסתר המכר מרדכי ויבקש הד עלין ויברע ה המלך המלרוישנה ואת נערותיה לטוכ בית הנשים לא
הנידה אסתר את עמה ואת מולדתה כי מרדיכי
לפני ז אשרלי אין בכל יום ויום מרדיכי
לפני ואצרלי אישים לא את שליום
הילשה בי ביל אין היל את שליום
המלף אין מקאר לה בדת
הילשה בי ביל אין לה בדת
ונים עשר של זמלא אי מרוקיר
שש דשים בשב או איי שים בבשלי
ובת בוקי הנשים ובה הנעות האל המלך בת
כל אשרתאמר נתן לה לבוא עמה מבית הנשים
עדבית המלר בערב היא באה ובכקר היא שבה
שלר הפילנשים לא אכוא עוד אכן המלך ר
שלר הפילנשים לא אכוא עוד אכן המלך ר
שמר הפילנשים לא אכוא עוד אכן המלך ר
מי אם ומץ בה המלך ונקראה בשם וברוניע הכור
לבוא אל המלך לא בקשה דברכי אם את אשר
למוא אל המלך לא בקשה דברכי אם את אשר
אמר הני פרים המלך שמר הנשים ות הי אם תר
לבוא אל המלך לא בקשה דברכי אם את אשר
אמר הני פרים המלך שמר הנשים ות הי אם תר

Chapter 20

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

<sup>2</sup> Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto

the LORD, saying,

I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

2 Kings 20:1-3

Not 'after' but <u>during!</u>

- 4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,
- Furn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

2 Kings 20:4-5

- Notice that Isaiah didn't speak until God gave him something to say!
  - We often try to be amateur providences in other peoples lives!

- And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.
- 7 And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

2 Kings 20:6-7

### Hezakiah as a type of Christ

- The Bible is full of anticipatory models
  - Models given in advance of something that by God's foreknowledge will occur later
- The 'king of this world' brought his threats
- Hezekiah was faithful and obedient to the Lord
- His people followed him
- Though as dead, on the third day he rose to new life
- The enemy was soundly defeated!
- Fulfilling the promise God made to David

- 9 The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness:
- I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years.
- I said, I shall not see the LORD, even the LORD, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.

Isaiah 38:9-20

Hezekiah: "Strengthened of Jehovah"!

- Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.
- Is reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will be break all my bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

Isaiah 38:9-20

Christ gave up His right to His life for the Father

- Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward:
- O LORD, I am oppressed; undertake for me.
- What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.
- 16 O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live.

Isaiah 38:9-20

- 17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.
- 18 For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.

Isaiah 38:9-20

Psalm 16:10 – "you will not leave my soul in hell"

- The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.
- The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.

Isaiah 38:9-20

8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?

9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forth ten degrees, or go back ten degrees?

2 Kings 20:8-9

And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

2 Kings 20:10-11

- This poses a great problem to the 'wise'
- How could the Sun go backwards?
- Was the Earth's procession altered?
- But... what does The Bible say actually moved?

#### Ahaz' 'Sundial'

• 1. The sundial was possibly a series of steps leading from east to west. As the sun set in the west the shadow would move down the steps and thus would indicate how much daytime was left.



Ancient Japanese 'dial'

#### Ahaz' 'Sundial'

• 2. It may have been a hollowed out hemisphere with lines on the inside to show the time of day.



#### Ahaz' 'Sundial'

• 3. It could have been a pillar with steps around it and as the sun moved across the heavens, the shadow of the pillar would fall on different steps,



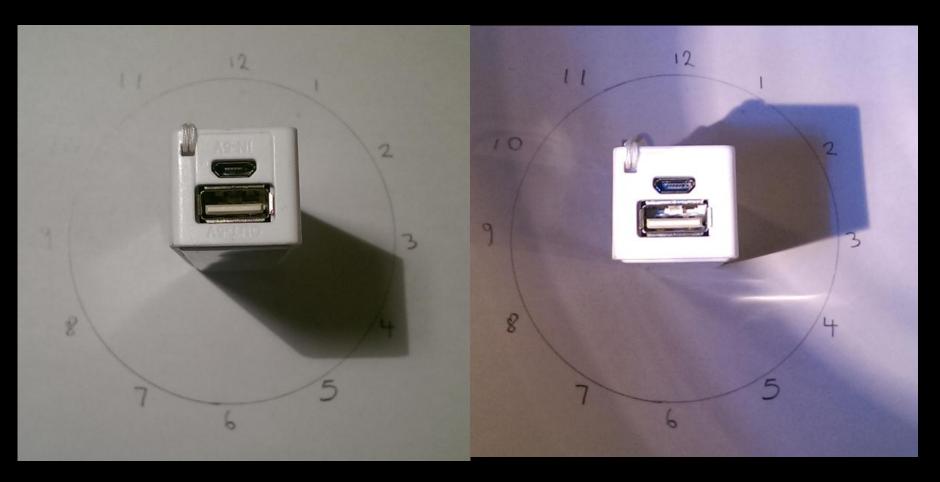
#### Did the Sun move?

 The Babylonians come "to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land"

2 Chron 32:31

- Thus this God did not move the Sun!
- How else can you move a shadow?

### **Shedding Some Light!**



 All you need to move a shadow is a greater light!

## The Light of the World

- As Hezekiah gazed out of his window at the steps known as the 'Dial of Ahaz', suddenly the Shekinah glory of God shone out of the Temple (higher up the hill)
- The radiance and brightness of this would obfuscate the shadow created by the Sun, literally causing the shadow on the 'dial' to move backward!
- All Jerusalem would have be lit up by God's glory

### The Light of the World

• "The whole scene, the Palace Gardens, the stairs themselves, the city wall and the Horse Gate far below, and the Mount of Olives on the opposite side of the valley, stand out in sharp relief vividly delineated in that blinding white light. If this is indeed what happened on that memorable day, what possible doubt could remain in Hezekiah's mind? More convincing by far than any natural celestial phenomenon, this message from the sanctuary was as the appearance of God Himself".

### The Light of the World

- Christ is the Light of the World John 1:9
- God IS light, in Him is no darkness 1 John 1:5
- In the New Jerusalem, there will be no need for the Sun – the Lamb will be the light! - Rev 21:23

## Light



And God said, 'Let light be light'

And God said, 'Let The Light illuminate'

## Light

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Cor 4:6

Light was therefore pre-existent

- Seen as a Cloud by day and Fire by night in the wilderness
- Seen by Solomon and all Israel at the dedication of the Temple

- Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.
- <sup>2</sup> And the priests could not enter into the house of the LORD, because the glory of the LORD had filled the LORD's house.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

3 And when all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshipped, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever.

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

- The Shekinah came forth only for destruction or blessing.
- Remember, that at the time Hezakiah is sick, the Assyrian army was <u>still</u> surrounding Jerusalem
  - See verse 6 again
- Were the Assyrians consumed by the brightness of His coming? (see 2 Thessalonians 2:8)
- Was this the 'wonder' the Babylonians speak of?

This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. And Hezekiah prospered in all his works.

Howbeit in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who sent unto him to inquire of the wonder that was done in the land, God left him, to try him, that he might know all that was in his heart.

2 Chronicles 32:30-31

- 12 At that time Berodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.
- them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

14 Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came then unto thee? And Hezekiah said, Then are come from a far country, even from Babylon. 15 And he said, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All the things that are in mine house have then seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.

2 Kings 20:14-15

- 16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.
- 17 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD.

18 And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

2 Kings 20:16-18

19 Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days? 20 And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 21 And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh bis son reigned in his stead.

2 Kings 20:19-21

# The Final Kings of Judah

