

Awe

Part 3-Standing in Awe of the God Who Rescues

2 Kings 18-19

Three things about circumstances that hold us captive...

1. They seem TOO BIG for us to handle.

In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah's reign, Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. 2 Kings 18:13 NIV

2. They seem to MOCK us in our pain.

Surely you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all the countries, destroying them completely. And will you be delivered? 2 Kings 19:11 NIV

3. They seem to PARALYZE us with fear.

Then Eliakim son of Hilkiah the palace administrator, Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of Asaph the recorder went to Hezekiah, with their clothes torn, and told him what the field commander had said. 2 Kings 18:37 NIV

Consider King Hezekiah...

1. He was COMPLETELY COMMITTED to God.

Hezekiah trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel. There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him. 2 Kings 18 NIV

2. He was PASSIONATE for and FAITHFUL to God's commands.

He held fast to the LORD and did not stop following him; he kept the commands the LORD had given Moses. ⁷ And the LORD was with him; he was successful in whatever he undertook. 2 Kings 18:6-7 NIV

3. He humbly understood that there is NO HOPE without God.

When King Hezekiah heard this, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and went into the temple of the LORD. 2 Kings 19:1 NIV

4. He cried out to God to be RESCUED.

Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it. Then he went up to the temple of the LORD and spread it out before the LORD. ¹⁵ And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD: “It is true, LORD, that the Assyrian kings have laid waste these nations and their lands. ¹⁸ They have thrown their gods into the fire and destroyed them, for they were not gods but only wood and stone, fashioned by human hands. ¹⁹ Now, LORD our God, deliver us from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You alone, LORD, are God.” 2 Kings 19:14-15, 18-19 NIV

5. He had FAITH that God could and would rescue them.

That night the angel of the LORD went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the Assyrian camp. When the people got up the next morning—there were all the dead bodies! ³⁶ So Sennacherib king of Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there. 2 Kings 19:35-36 NIV

How do you feel trapped right now in your life?

What is holding you captive?

Do you believe that God can rescue you?

Have you surrendered completely to Him?