

He Trusted in Jehovah

2 Kings 18-19



Hezekiah

He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him.

2 Kings 18:5



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Challenging Your Trust



- Challenging your trust
 - Trust is very difficult
 - A child trusts their parents until they learn a reason not to.
 - Friends develop trust over time ... but it can be destroyed in moments
 - How do you learn to trust in God?



Rabshakeh

chief spokesman
for Sennacherib
(King of Assyria)

- The Assyrian army surrounds Jerusalem.
- Led by Sennacherib the King
 - No one has been able to stand in his way
 - he's brutally defeated everything in his path
 - has saved Jerusalem for last.
- His spokesman is called the Rabshakeh
 - He challenges the people of Jerusalem and Hezekiah
 - Attempts to get them to surrender

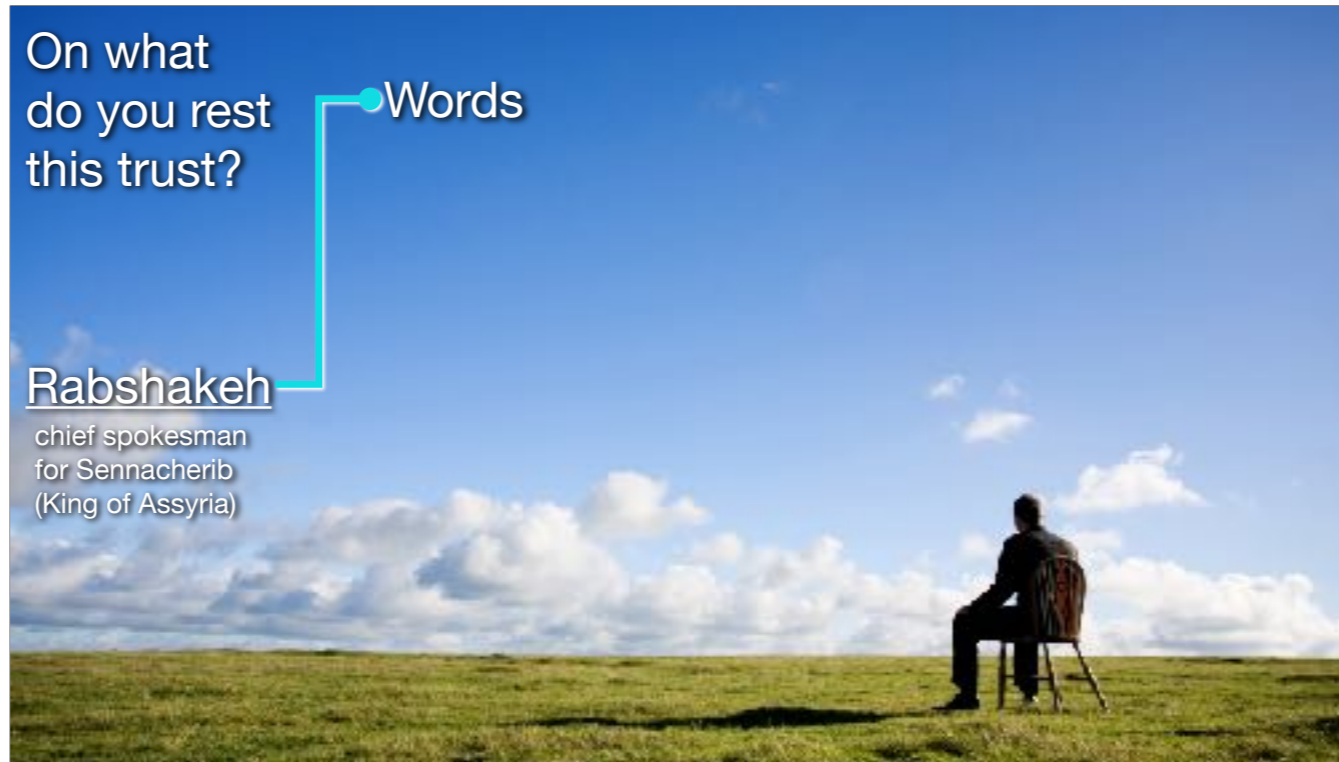
On what
do you rest
this trust?

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- 19: “Say to Hezekiah, ‘Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria:
- On what do you rest this trust of yours?




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- 20 Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war?
-

On what do you rest this trust?

Words - strategy and power for war?

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A photograph of a person sitting on a wooden chair in a vast, flat green field. The person is seen from behind, looking out over the horizon. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

- 20 Do you think that mere words are strategy and power for war?
- Having a battle plan ... means nothing as soon as the battle begins.
- Words can be said about bravery, and just causes
- Words can be said about the help we have and that God is on our side
- We can build each other up with words ... hopes and expectations.



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chief spokesman
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In whom do
you trust?

- 20: In whom do you now trust, that you have rebelled against me?



- 21 Behold, you are trusting now in Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of any man who leans on it. Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him.



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Egypt

- broken reed of a staff
- pierce hand of one who leans on it

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•



Rabshakeh
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Egypt

- broken reed of a staff
- pierce hand of one who leans on it
- chariots and horsemen

In whom do
you trust?

- 21 Behold, you are trusting now in Egypt, that broken reed of a staff, which will pierce the hand of any man who leans on it.
 - 24 How then can you repulse a single captain among the least of my master's servants, when you trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen?
- Such is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who trust in him.



- 22 But if you say to me, “We trust in the LORD our God,”
- is it not he whose high places and altars Hezekiah has removed, saying to Judah and to Jerusalem, “You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem”?
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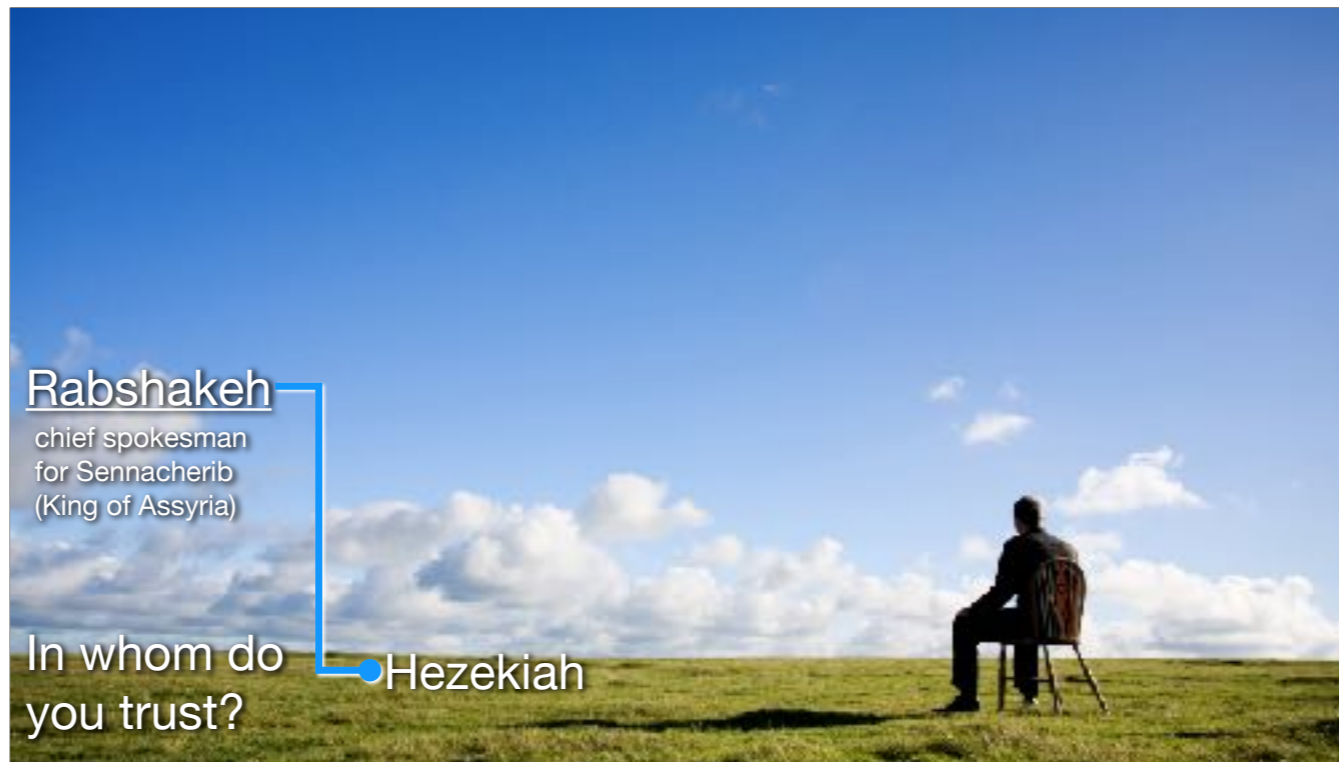
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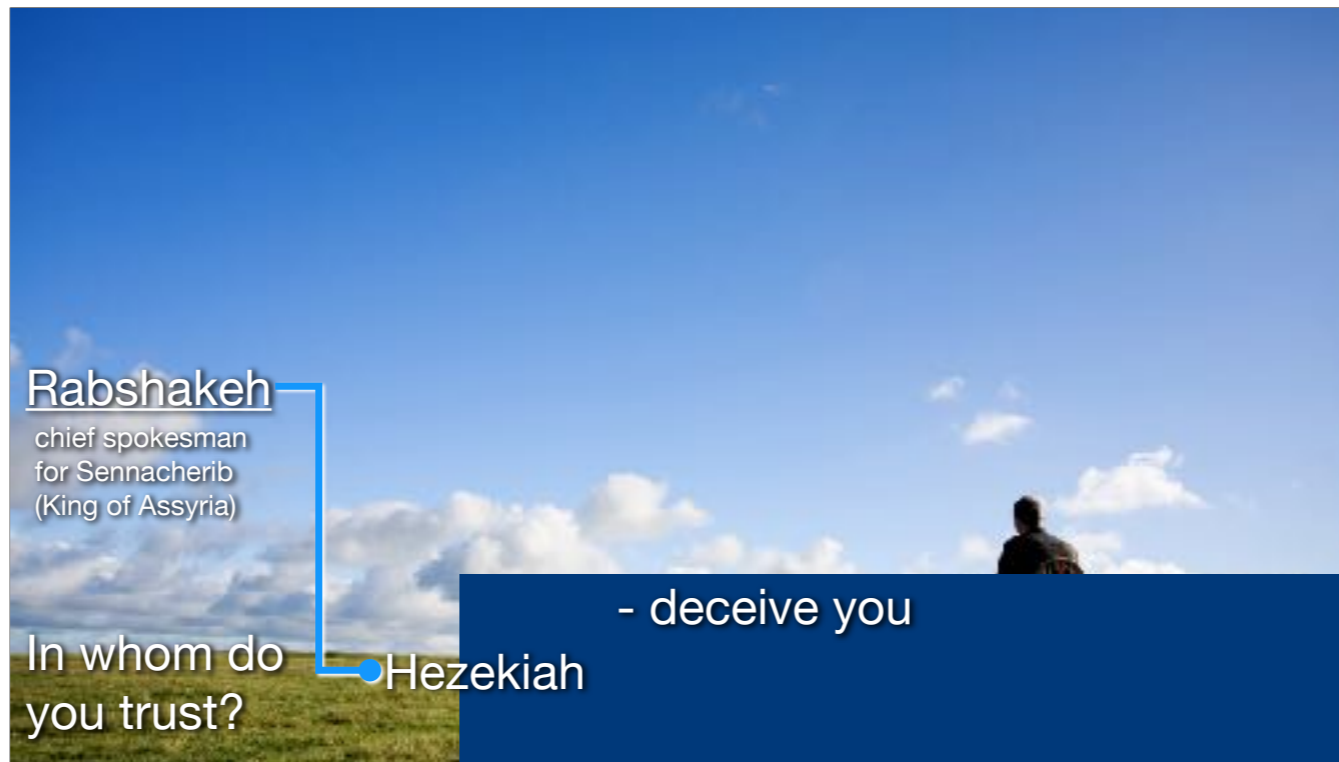
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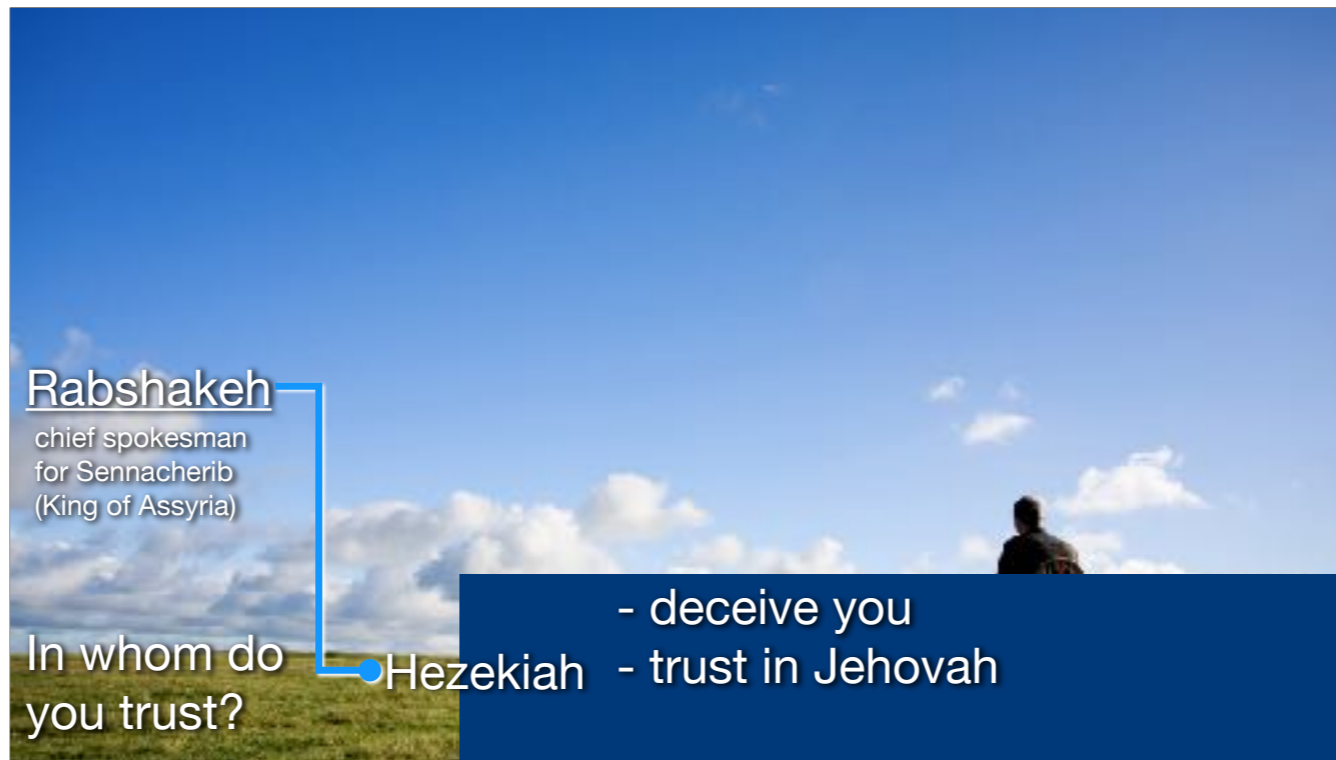
- 25 Moreover, is it without the LORD that I have come up against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, “Go up against this land and destroy it.””
-



- 29 Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you out of my hand. 30 Do not let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD by saying, The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'



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- The Rabshakeh has challenged every possible thing they could trust in
- They should surrender
- How does one respond to this?
 - Is some of it true?



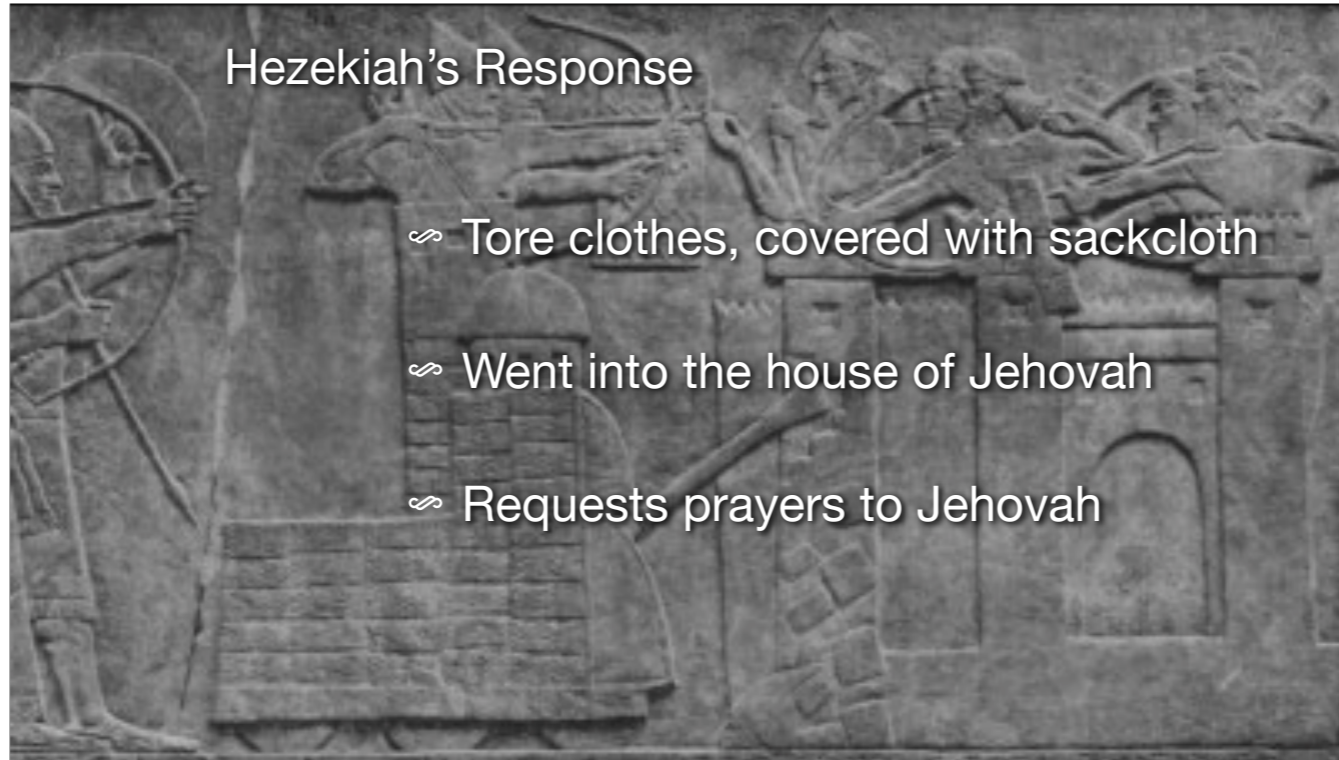
- Hezekiah's Response
- How is Hezekiah exhibiting trust in Jehovah?



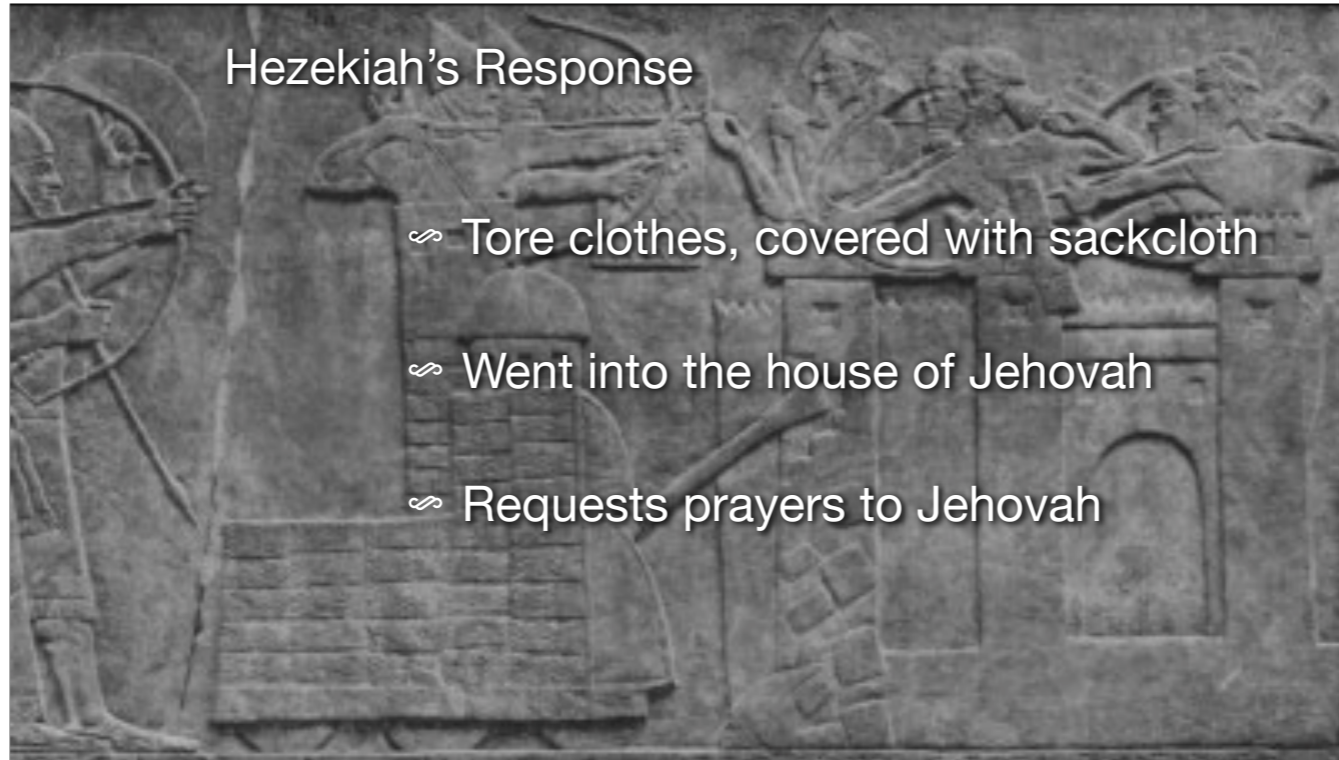
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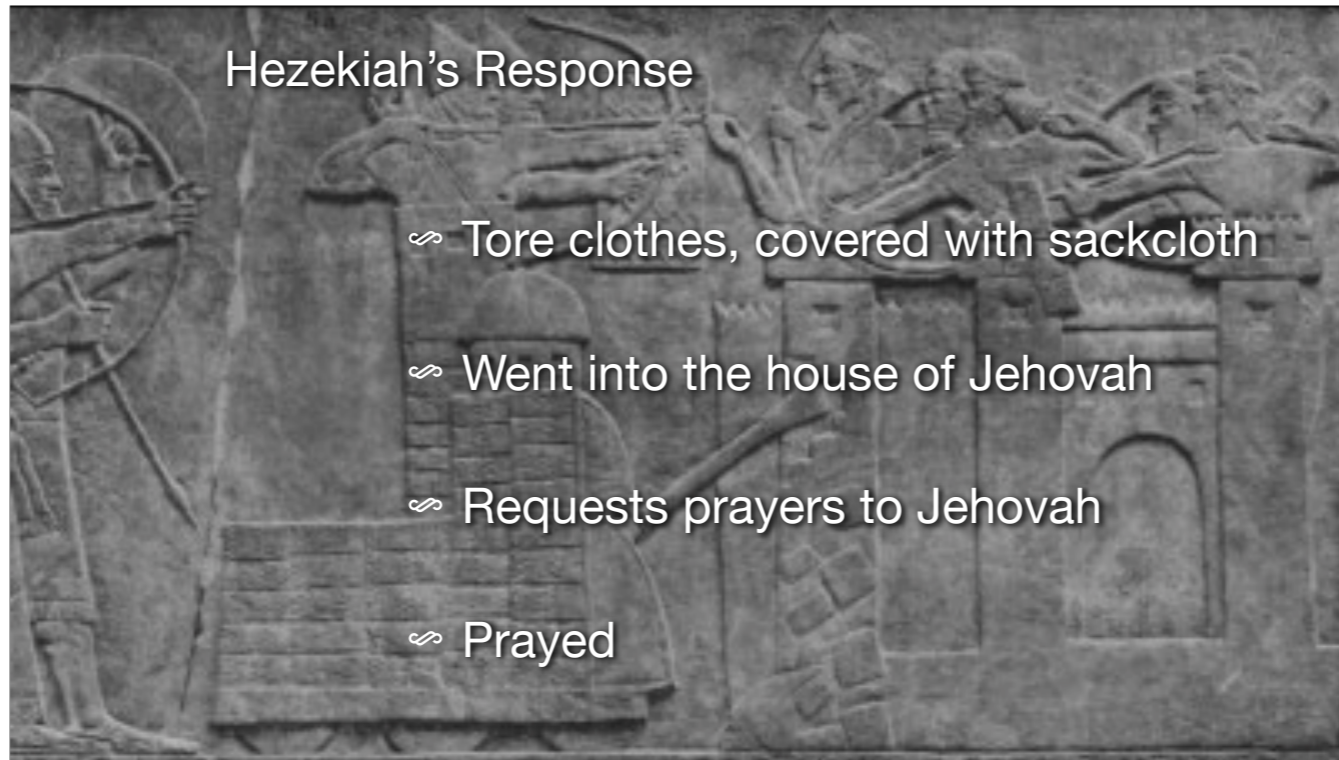


- 2 And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests, covered with sackcloth, **to the prophet Isaiah** the son of Amoz.
3 They said to him, “Thus says Hezekiah, This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to the point of birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth. 4 It may be that the LORD your God heard all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard; **therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.**”

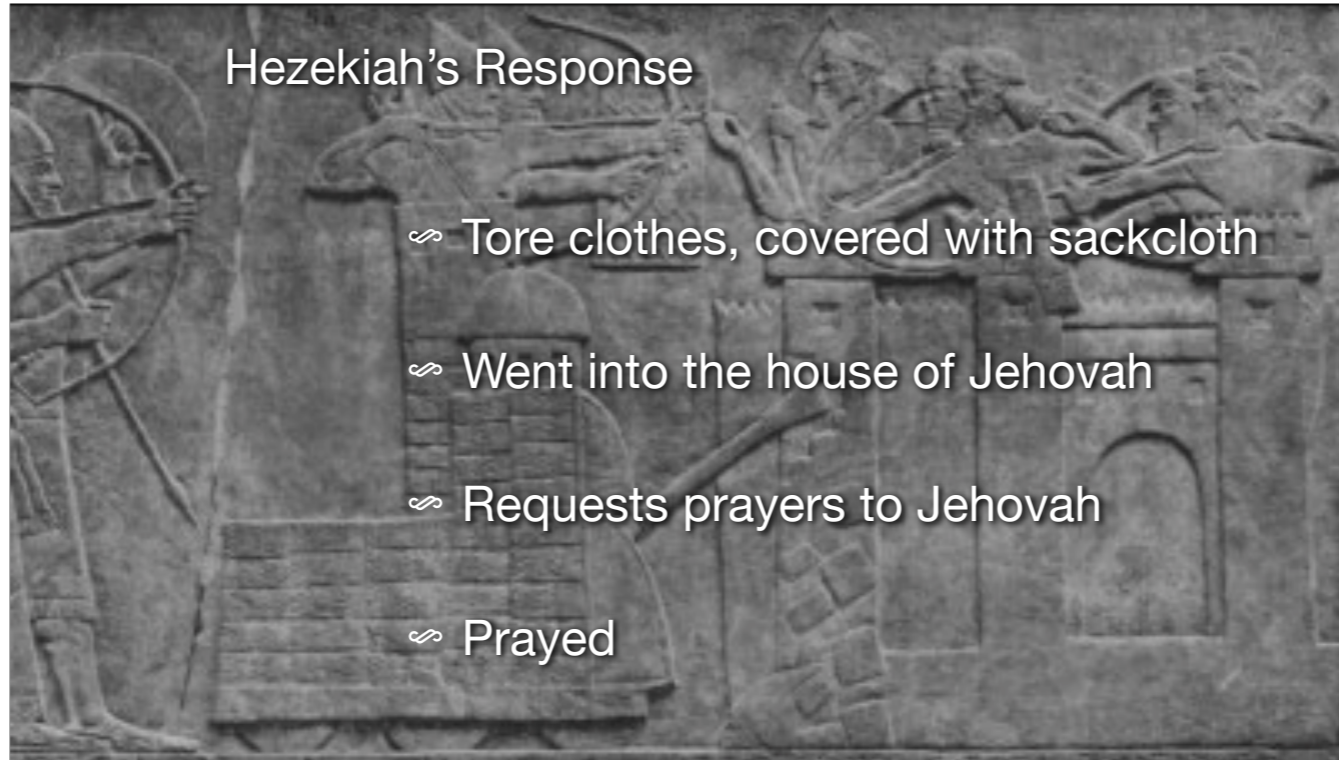


• Jehovah answered!

• 5 When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, 6 Isaiah said to them, "Say to your master, 'Thus says the LORD:



- 14 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. 15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD and said:
 - 19 So now, O LORD our God, save us, please, from his hand,
 - that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O LORD, are God alone.”



- How is Hezekiah exhibiting trust in Jehovah?



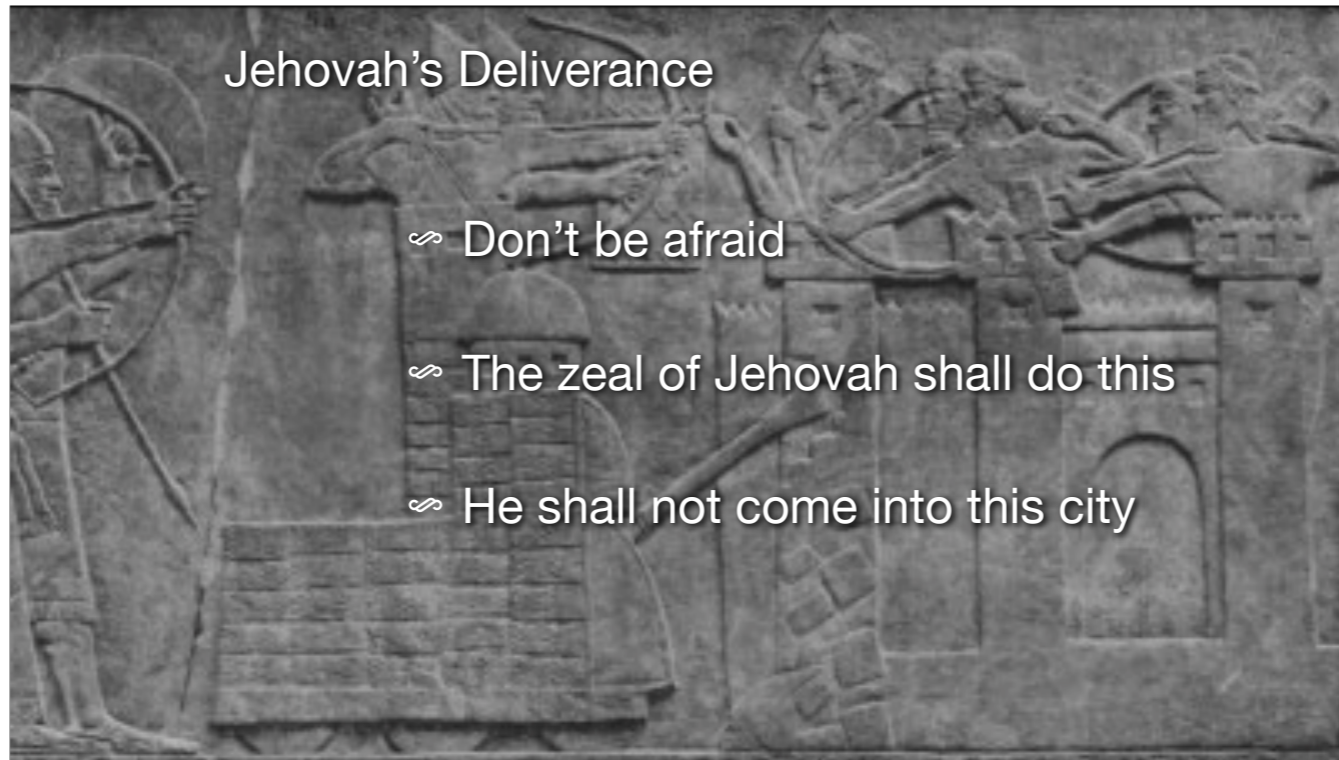
- Jehovah's Deliverance
- What are the reasons for trusting these statements?



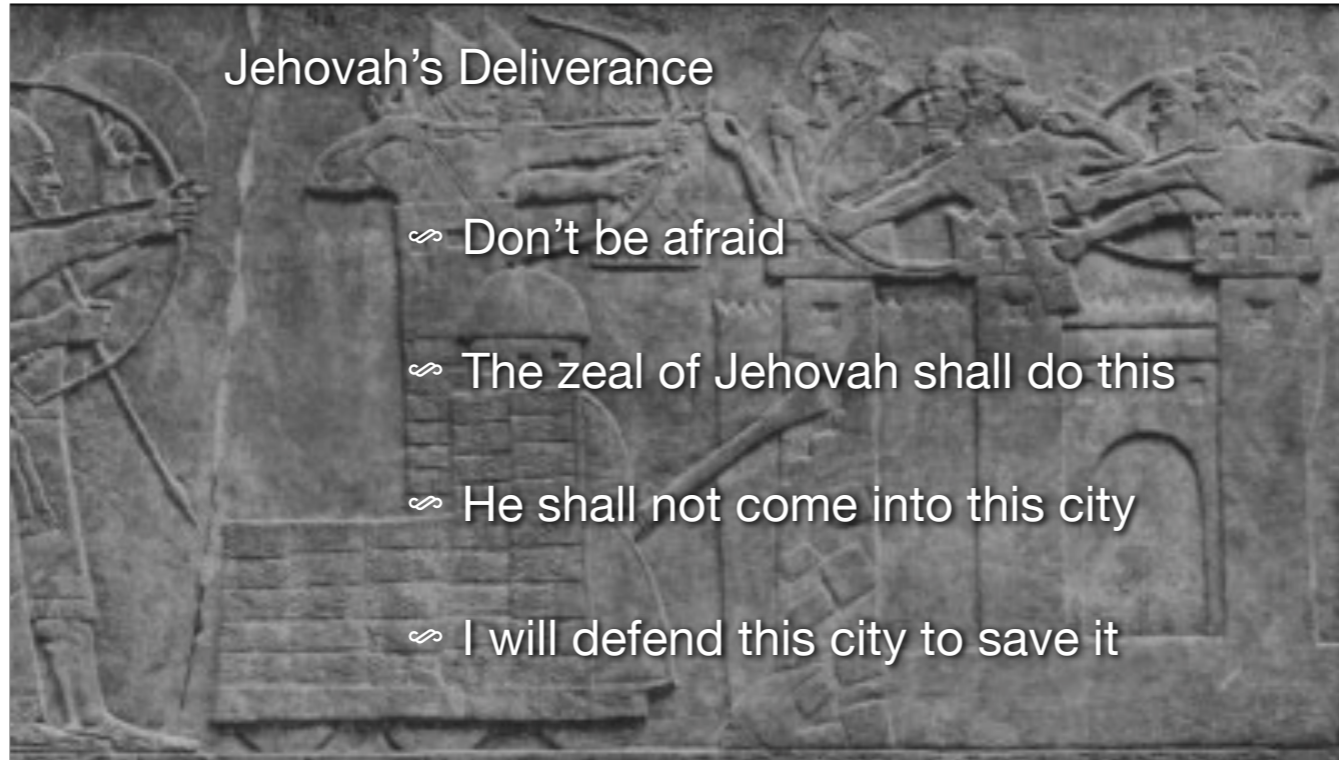
- 6 Isaiah said to them, “Say to your master, ‘Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. 7 Behold, I will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land, and I will make him fall by the sword in his own land.’”
- (This sounds highly unlikely ... how could that possibly happen?)



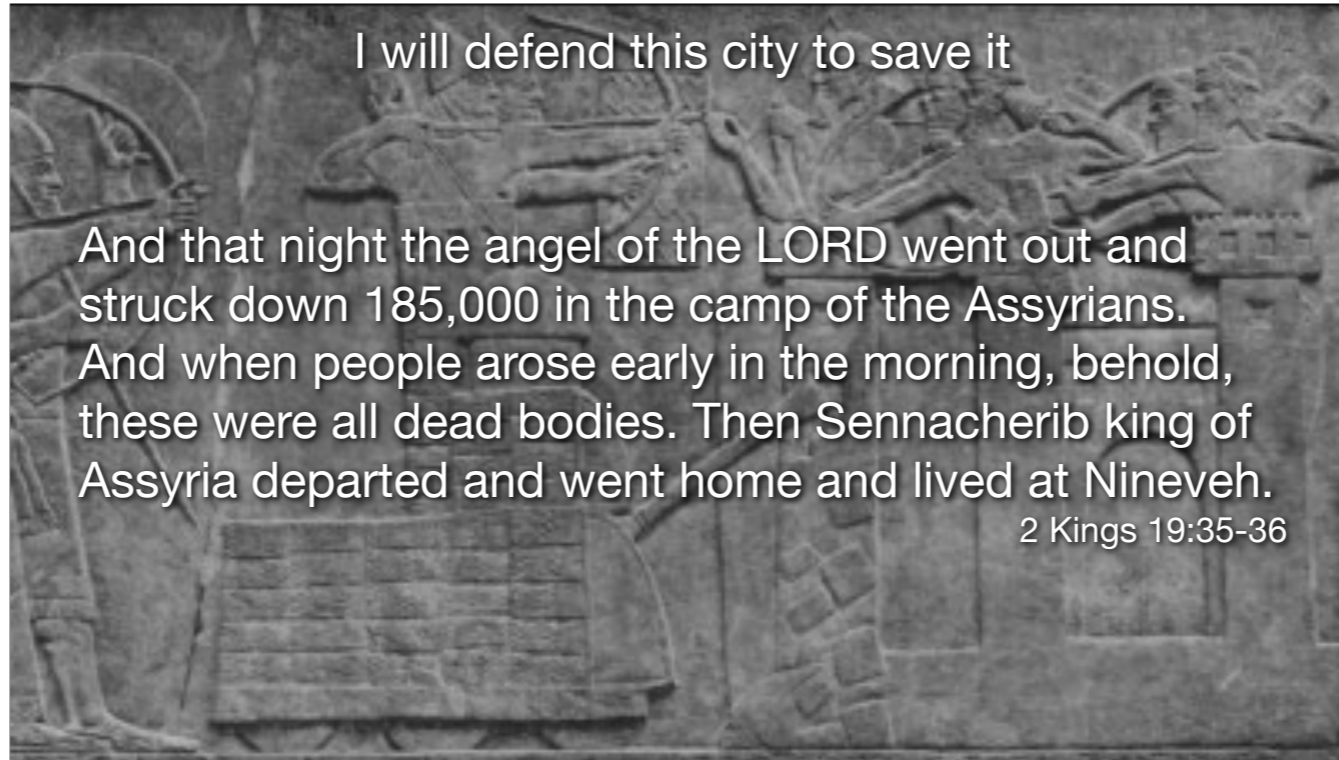
- 19:29 “And this shall be the sign for you: this year eat what grows of itself, and in the second year what springs of the same. Then in the third year sow and reap and plant vineyards, and eat their fruit. 30 And the surviving remnant of the house of Judah shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward. 31 For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, and out of Mount Zion a band of survivors. **The zeal of the LORD will do this.**



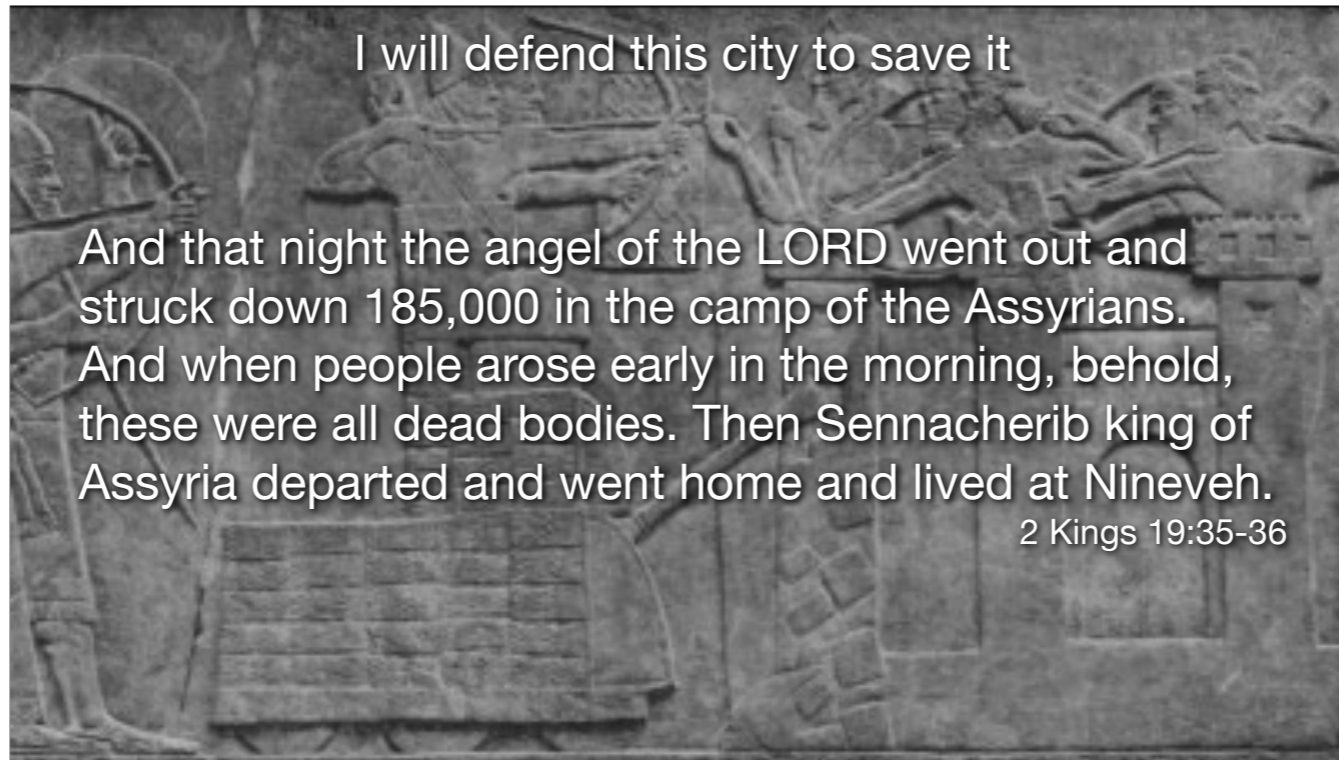
- 32 “Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria:
- He shall not come into this city
- or shoot an arrow there,
- or come before it with a shield
- or cast up a siege mound against it.
- 33 By the way that he came, by the same he shall return, and he shall not come into this city, declares the LORD.



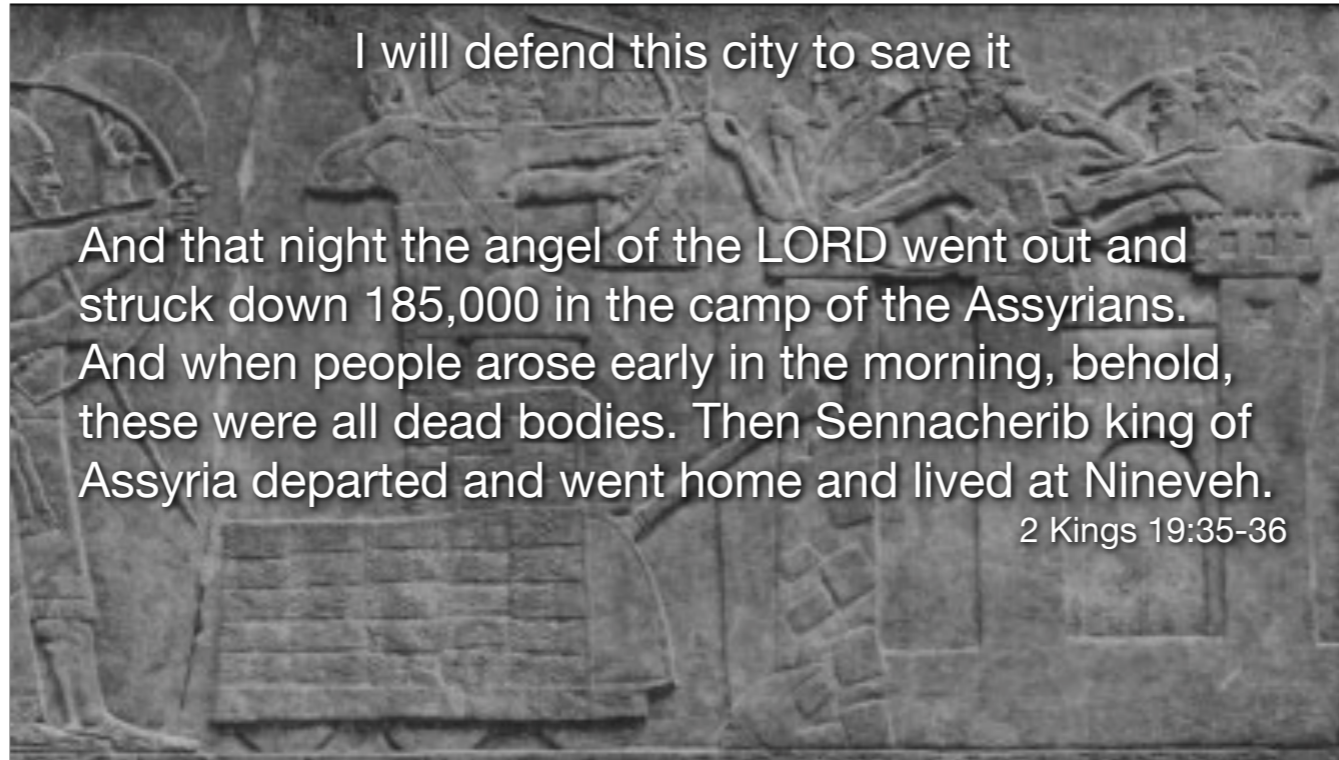
- 34 For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David.”
- What are the reasons for trusting these statements?



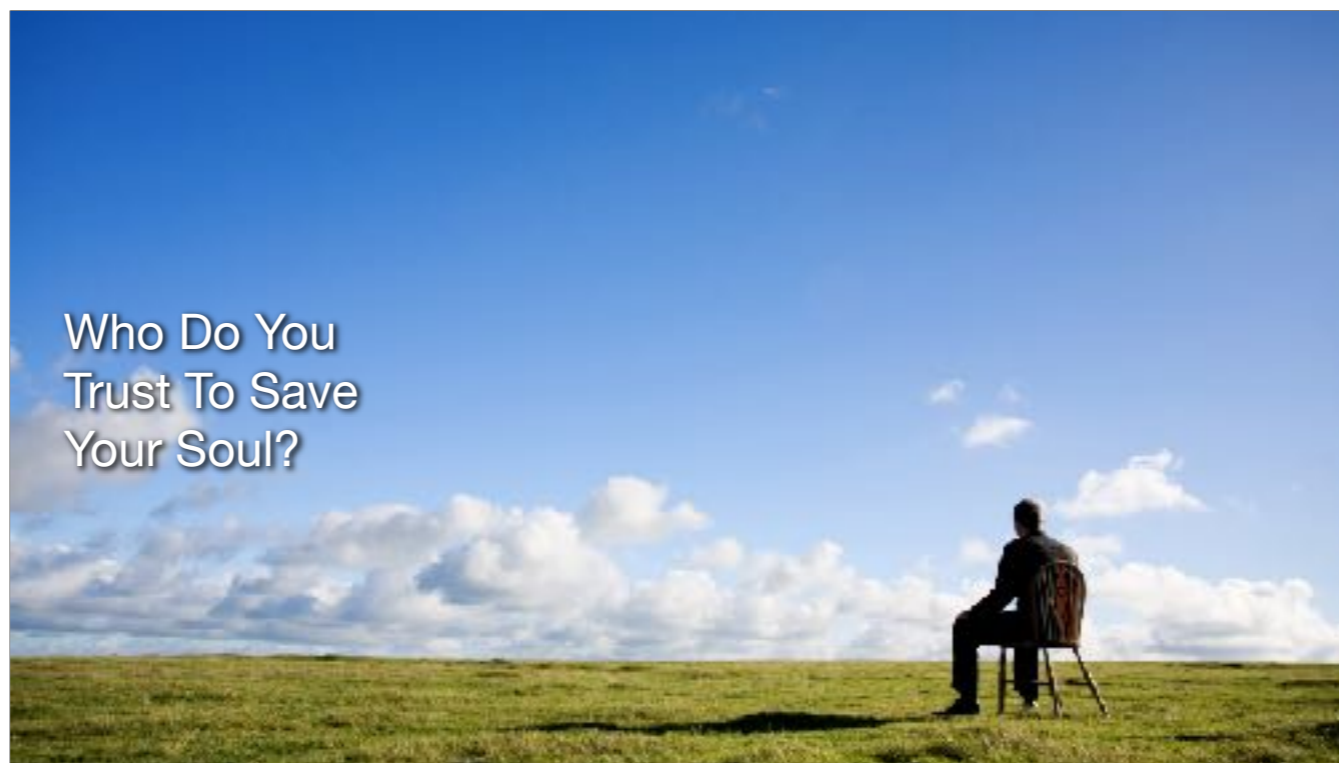
- 2 Kings 19:35-36 (ESV) 35 And that night the angel of the LORD went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies. 36 Then Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went home and lived at Nineveh.



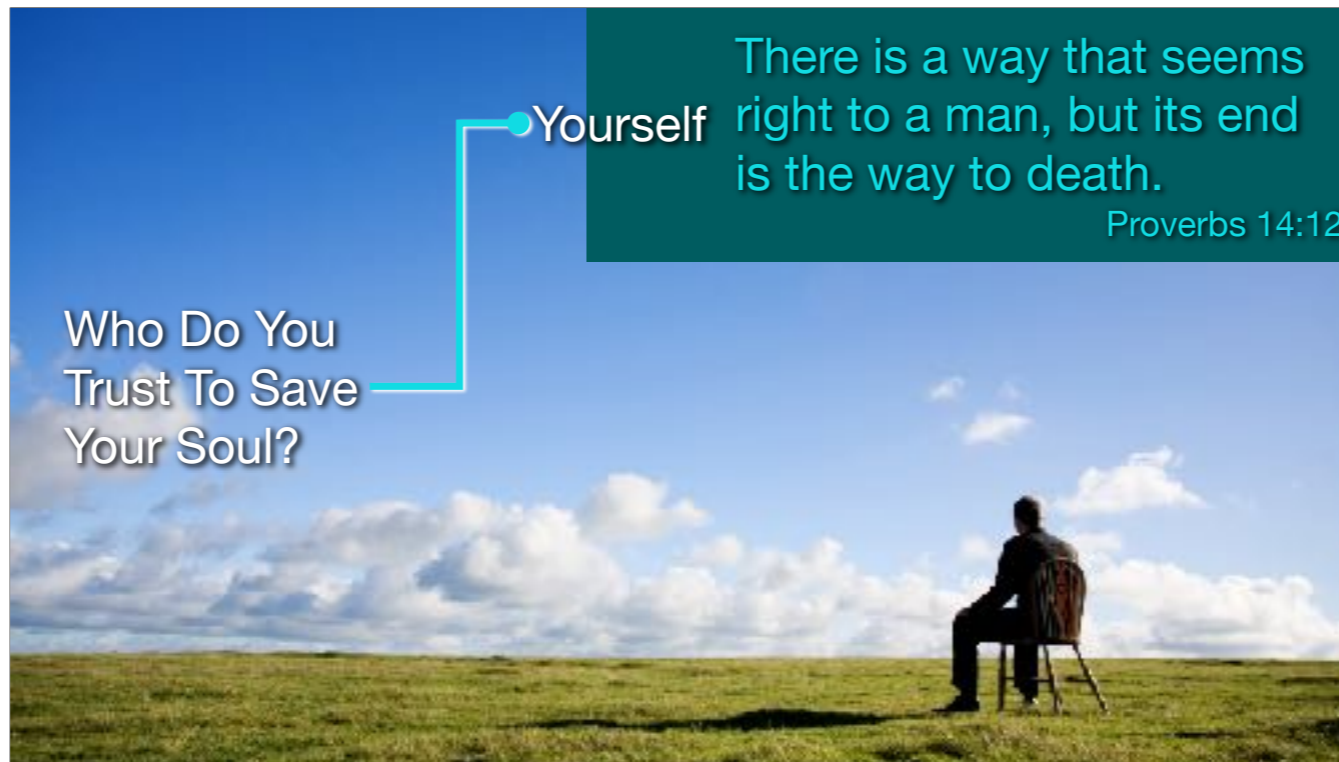
- How does this help Hezekiah and Israel to trust in Jehovah?
 - Jerusalem is surrounded by a powerful army, unbeatable.
 - Attacked, mocked, Hopeless
 - They are without the strength to save themselves.
 - Humble themselves
 - Go to God's house
 - Prayers
 - Jehovah Delivered them ... zeal and power
 - Jehovah keeps his word ... he will do as promised
 - Jehovah is worthy of our trust



- What does it teach us?
 - Jehovah is worthy of our consideration that we can trust him.
 - This is just one case where Jehovah demonstrates that I can trust him.
- 1) He cares about his people when they are in distress: zealous
- 2) He acts to save them in surprising ways: power
- 3) His deliverance is complete.



- Who do you trust to save your soul?
- Challenging your trust
 - Not like the Rabshakeh. I'm not mocking or scorning or trying to get you to just agree with me.
 - But I want you to think careful.
- Trust Jehovah like Hezekiah did.



• Yourself —

- Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.
- Romans 6:20-21 (ESV) 20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.
- Romans 7:5 (ESV) 5 For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death.



- Vain Things —

- Acts 14:15 “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.
- 1 Samuel 12:21 (ESV) 21 And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty.



Who Do You
Trust To Save
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Vain
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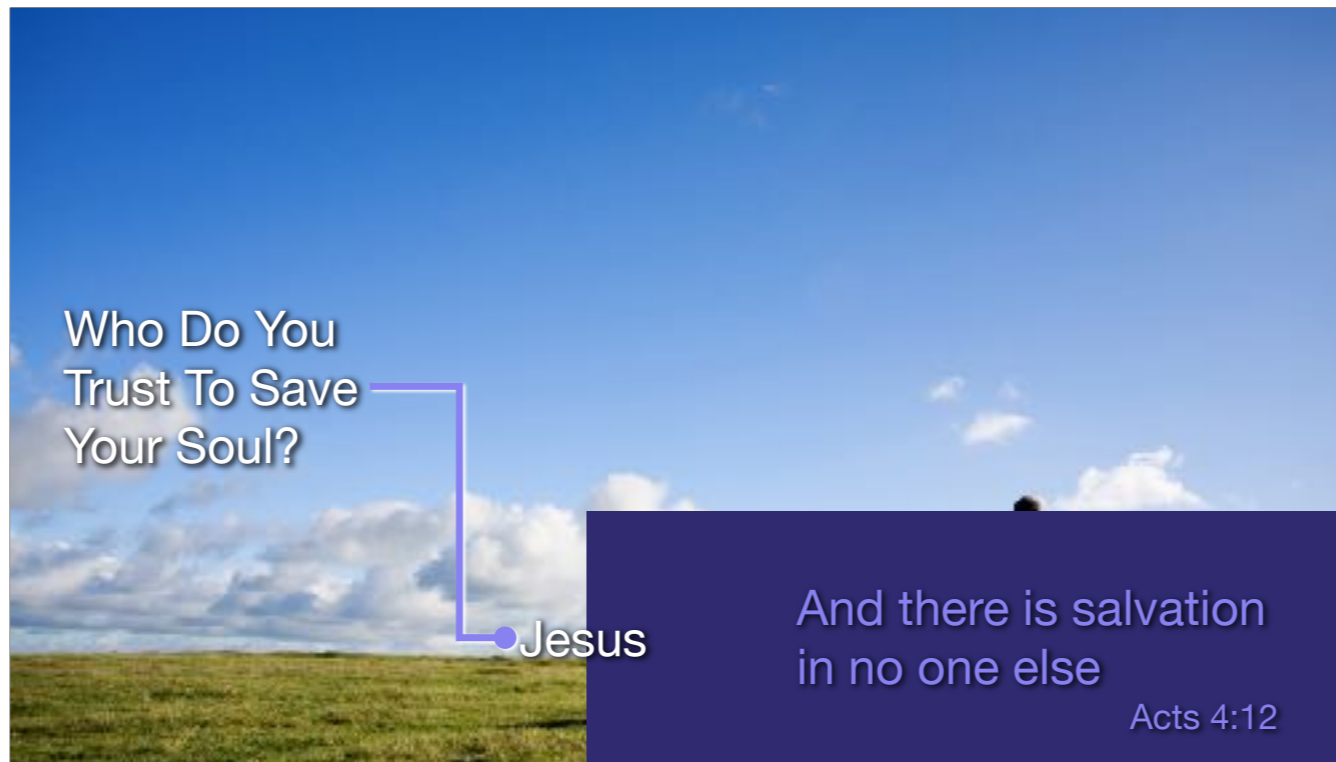
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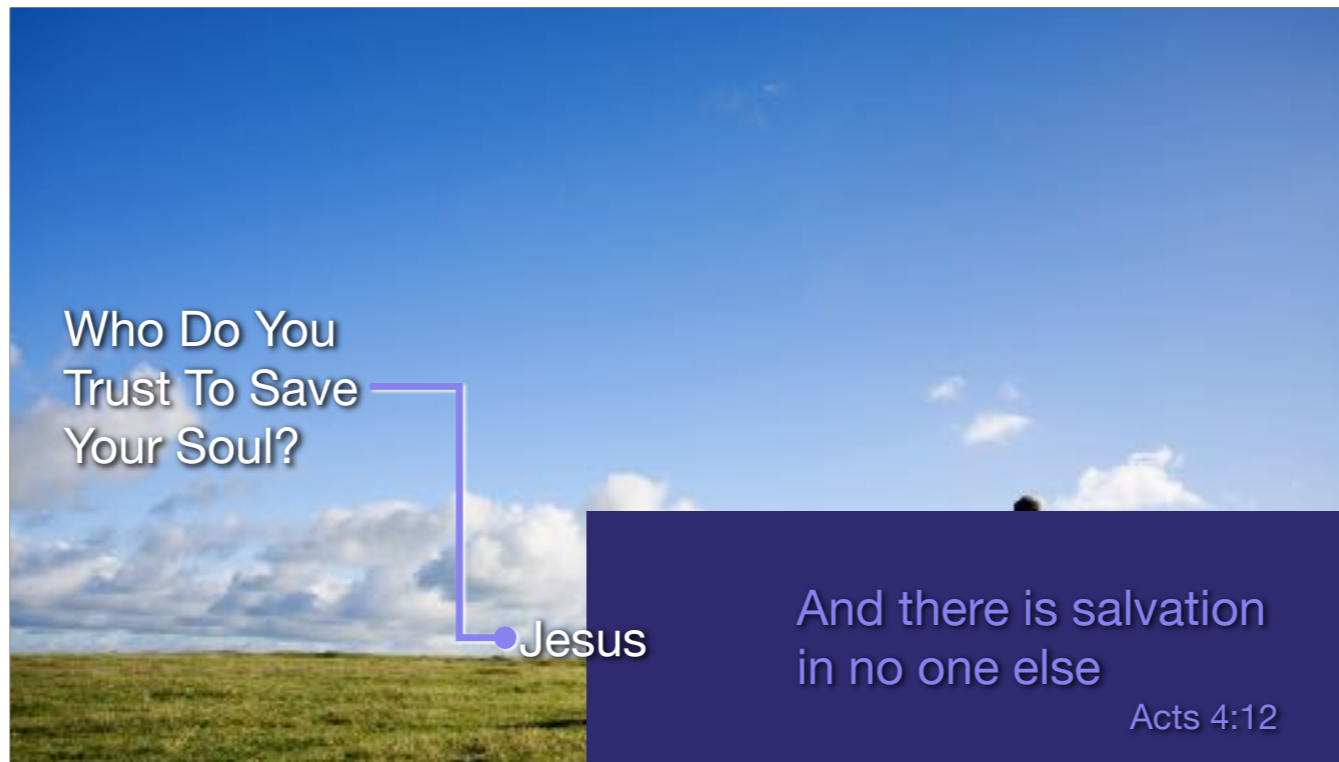
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- 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10 (ESV) 9 For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.



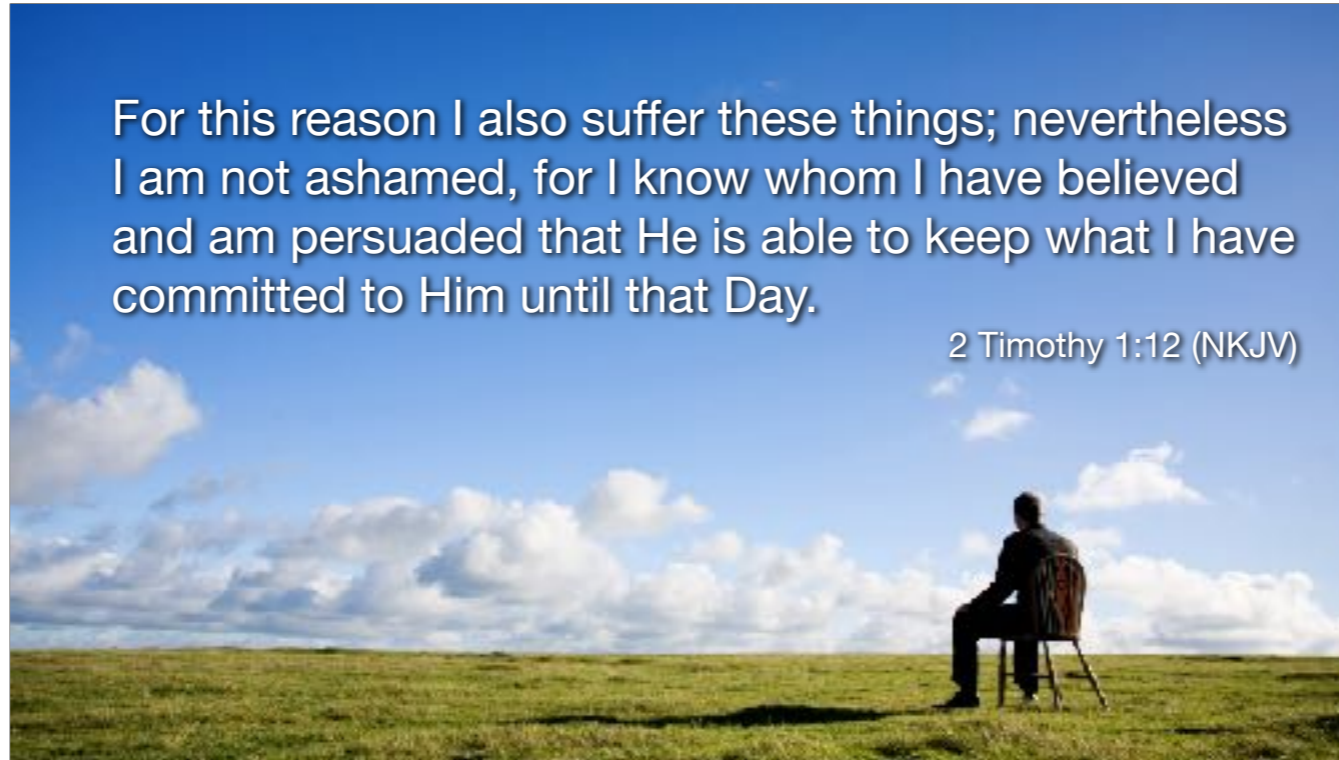
- Jesus —
 - Acts 4:12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”
 - Luke 24:46-48 (ESV) 46 and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.
 - John 20:31 (ESV) 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
 - Acts 10:42-43 (ESV) 42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”



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For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV)



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- Will you humble yourself before Jehovah?
- Will you seek Jesus?
- Will you trust your soul to his care?

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

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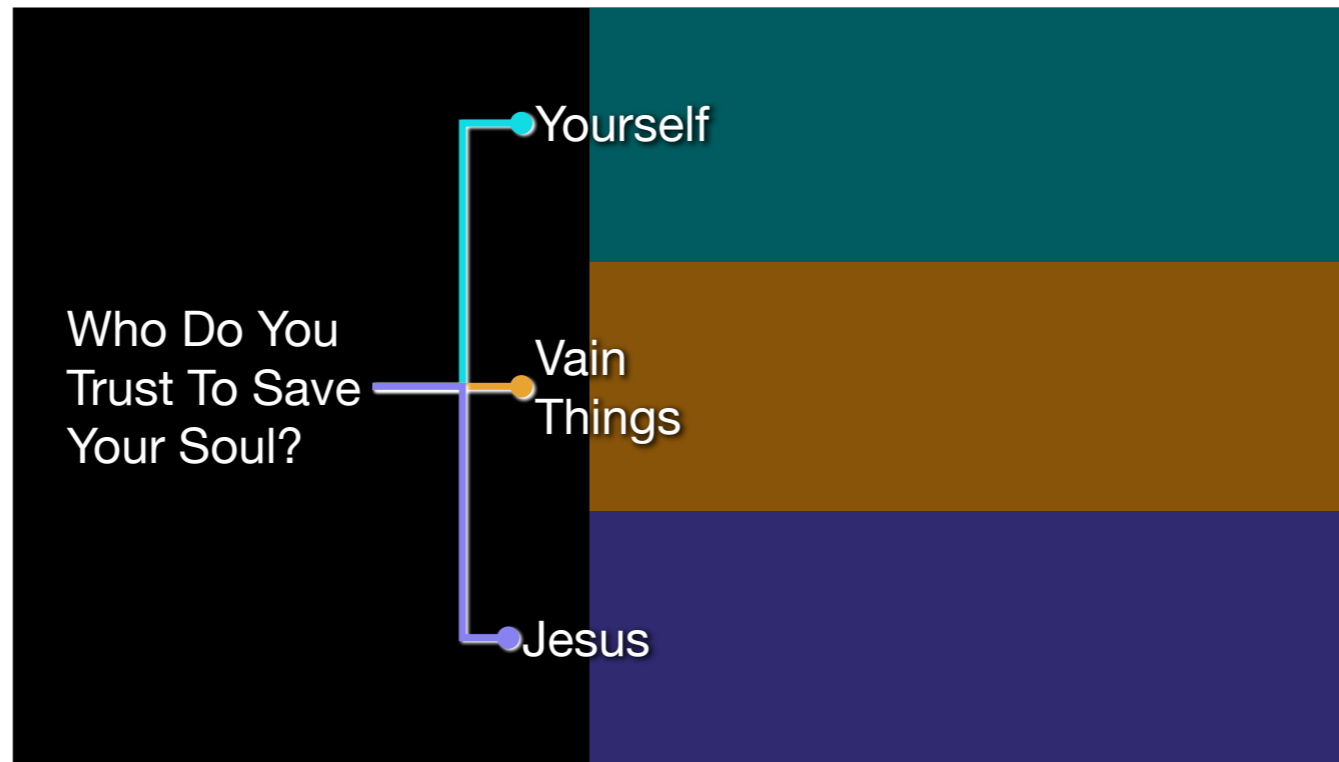
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On what
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In whom do
you trust?

- Words - strategy and power for war?
- Egypt
 - broken reed of a staff
 - pierce hand of one who leans on it
 - chariots and horsemen
- Jehovah
 - high places removed
 - worship at altar in Jerusalem
 - Jehovah told me to destroy land
- Hezekiah
 - deceive you
 - trust in Jehovah
 - mislead you



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 - Jeremiah 12:13 (ESV) 13 They have sown wheat and have reaped thorns; they have tired themselves out but profit nothing. They shall be ashamed of their harvests because of the fierce anger of the LORD.”

- Others —

- Religions —

- Acts 14:15 “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.
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2 Kings 18-19

Synopsis: Hezekiah trusted in Jehovah. When his faith was challenged he still trusted only in Jehovah. And we can trust in Him for our salvation too.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”