

# OLD TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

## HEZEKIAH TO THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

2 Kings 18 - 25

Lesson 28

*Biblical-Literacy.com*

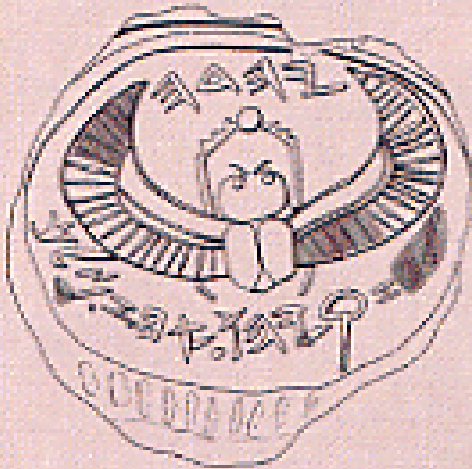
# BACKGROUND

- 1 and 2 Kings – Israel's monarchy
- Post-Solomon: Northern Kingdom  
(Israel/Samaria)  
Southern Kingdom (Judah)
- Hezekiah, 13<sup>th</sup> king of Judah
- Further info: Isaiah, Chronicles

# Hezekiah - Basics

- Co-regent with *Ahaz* 729 – 715 B.C.  
(11 years old)
- Age 25, sole king (715 – 686 B.C.)
- Seals found

2



Hezekiah (son of) Ahaz,  
King of Judah

# Hezekiah

- 2 kings 18:5-6
- Turbulent times
  - Israel destroyed 722 B.C.
  - Hezekiah stops Assyrian payments
- Enter Sennacherib

# Hezekiah's Crisis

- Envoy messaging - A dire situation
- Hezekiah's reaction:

RUN

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GIVE UP



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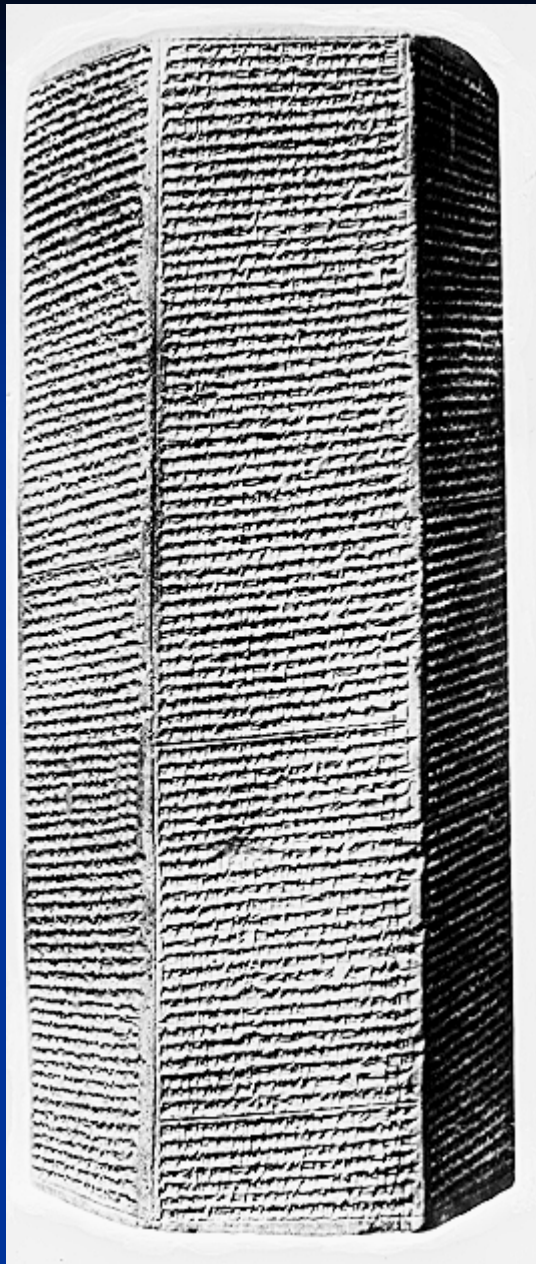
GET  
DRUNK



# Hezekiah's Crisis

- Envoy messaging - A dire situation
- Hezekiah's reaction:

1. Fall before Yahweh.
2. Get prayer from Isaiah



“As for Hezekiah, the Jew, who had not submitted to my yoke, 46 of his strong, walled cities and the cities of their environs, which were numberless, I besieged, I captured, I plundered, as booty I counted them. Him, like a caged bird, in Jerusalem, his royal city, I shut up.” (Pritchard, ANET, 288).

# Sennacherib

- The art of political spin.
- What happened?
  - Herodotus: Sennacherib's army was over run with rats infested with the bubonic plague killing many (book 2, paragraph 141).
  - Egyptian sources: Assyrian camp over run with rats carrying the bubonic plague.

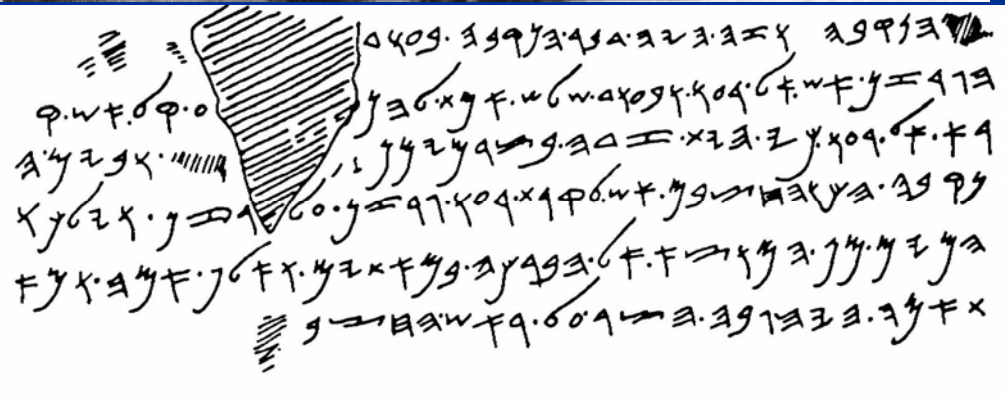
# What Happened?

- Yahweh God of all heaven and earth
- Angel of the Lord struck down the army
- Sennacherib went home to die

# More Hezekiah

- Ill to point of death
- Bubonic plague?
- Crisis of death
- Typical Hezekiah reaction
- Sign of sun
- Babylonian showing off
- Hezekiah's tunnel.





the tunneling; and this was how the tunneling was completed: As [the laborers employed] their picks, each crew toward the other, and while there were still three cubits remaining, the voices of the men calling out to each other [could be heard], since it got louder on the right [and left]. The day the opening was made, the stonecutters hacked toward each other, pick against pick. And the water flowed from the source to the pool [twelve] hundred cubits, despite the fact that) the height of the rock above the stonecutters' heads was one hundred cubits.

# Manasseh

- Co-regent 697 – 686 B.C.
- Sole king until 642.
- Evil
  - Ba'al worship & Asherah worship
  - Sacrificed a son
  - Sorcery & divination
- The destroyer of Judah (2 Ki. 21:13)
- Last two years, a turnaround

# AMON

- Didn't share in the turnaround
- 642 – 640 B.C.
- Assassinated

# JOSIAH

- 8 year old king (640 – 609 B.C.)
  - Jeremiah & Zephaniah
- At age 26, rummaging for temple repairs
- What a find!

# The Book of the Law

- Pentateuch or Deuteronomy
- Read to people
- Reform undertaken
- Josiah turned to Yahweh

Compare 2 Kings 23:25 to Deut. 6:5

# Remaining Kings

- Jehoahaz – 3 months (609 B.C.)
- Jehoikim (Eliakim) – (609 – 598 B.C.)
- Jehoichin – 3 months (598 – 597 B.C.)
- Zedekiah (Mattaniah) – (597 – 586 B.C.)
  - Destruction of Jerusalem and temple

# Points For Home

- God Answers Prayer
- God Honors a Seeking Heart
- God Wants Faithfulness
- God is Not Mocked or Fooled
- Find God's Commands and Let Them Change Your Life.