

**PLEASE NOTE** - The references below are taken from the 86-22 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(2 Kings 18:1-6) 18 In the third year of Ho-she'a the son of E'lah the king of Israel, Hez-e-ki'ah the son of King A'haz of Judah became king. 2 He was 25 years old when he became king, and he reigned for 29 years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was A'bi the daughter of Zech-a-ri'ah. 3 He kept doing what was right in Jehovah's eyes, just as David his forefather had done. 4 He was the one who removed the high places, smashed the sacred pillars, and cut down the sacred pole. He also crushed the copper serpent that Moses had made; for down to that time the people of Israel had been making sacrificial smoke to it and it used to be called the copper serpent-idol. 5 He trusted in Jehovah the God of Israel; there was no one like him among all the kings of Judah after him nor among those prior to him. 6 He held fast to Jehovah. He did not turn away from following him; he continued to keep the commandments that Jehovah had given to Moses.

\*\*\* ws17 March p. 18 par. 14 Serve Jehovah With a Complete Heart! \*\*\*

14 Hezekiah was another king who "held fast to Jehovah." He did so even though his father set a bad example and worshipped idols. Hezekiah "removed the high places, smashed the sacred pillars, and cut down the sacred pole. He also crushed the copper serpent that Moses had made," doing so because the Israelites were worshipping it. Hezekiah was completely devoted to Jehovah. "He continued to keep the commandments that Jehovah had given to Moses."—2 Kings 18:1-6.

(2 Kings 18:22-25) And if you should say to me, 'We trust in Jehovah our God,' is he not the one whose high places and altars Hez-e-ki'ah has removed, while he says to Judah and Jerusalem, 'You should bow down before this altar in Jerusalem?'" 23 So now make this wager, please, with my lord the king of As-syr'i-a: I will give you 2,000 horses if you are able to find enough riders for them. 24 How, then, could you drive back even one governor who is the least of my lord's servants, while you put your trust in Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? 25 Now is it without authorization from Jehovah that I have come up against this place to destroy it? Jehovah himself said to me, 'Go up against this land and destroy it.'"

(2 Kings 19:6) and Isaiah said to them: "This is what you should say to your lord, 'This is what Jehovah says: "Do not be afraid because of the words that you heard, the words with which the attendants of the king of As-syr'i-a blasphemed me.

\*\*\* w17 July p. 30 Winning the Battle for Your Mind \*\*\*

Do you remember the propaganda used by the Assyrian envoy, the Rabshakeh, against God's people? He said, in effect, 'Nothing can protect you from Assyria. Even your God, Jehovah, can do nothing for you.' He boldly added: 'Jehovah himself told us to destroy this land.' What did Jehovah say in return? "Do not be afraid because of the words that you heard, . . . with which the attendants of the king of Assyria blasphemed me." (2 Ki. 18:22-25; 19:6)

(2 Kings 19:35) 35 On that very night the angel of Jehovah went out and struck down 185,000 men in the camp of the As-syr'i-ans. When people rose up early in the morning, they saw all the dead bodies.

\*\*\* cl chap. 4 p. 41 par. 9 “Jehovah Is . . . Great in Power” \*\*\*

9 Jehovah also exerts power through his authority as Universal Sovereign. Can you imagine having millions upon millions of intelligent, able subjects eager to do your bidding? Jehovah wields such ruling power. He has human servants, in Scripture often likened to an army. (Psalm 68:11; 110:3) A human is a weak creature, though, compared with an angel. Why, when the Assyrian army attacked God’s people, a single angel killed 185,000 of those soldiers in one night! (2 Kings 19:35) God’s angels are “mighty in power.”—Psalm 103:19, 20.

\*\*\* w15 9/15 p. 22 par. 16 In What Ways Does Jehovah Love Us? \*\*\*

16 One way Jehovah protects his people is by means of his angels. (Ps. 91:11) One angel saved Jerusalem from the invading Assyrians, destroying an army of 185,000 in one night. (2 Ki. 19:35) The apostles Peter and Paul as well as others experienced angelic deliverance from prison. (Acts 5:18-20; 12:6-11) In our day as well, Jehovah’s hand is not short. A headquarters representative who visited a branch in Africa reported that political and religious conflicts had devastated that country. Fighting, looting, raping, and killing plunged the land into chaos and anarchy. Yet, none of our brothers and sisters lost their life in that case, even though many of them lost all their belongings and their livelihood. When asked how they were faring, everyone, with a broad smile, answered: “All is well, thanks to Jehovah!” They felt God’s love for them.

\*\*\* lff lesson 58 point 1 \*\*\*

### LESSON 58

#### Remain Loyal to Jehovah

True Christians are determined never to allow anything or anyone to interfere with their worship of Jehovah. No doubt that is how you feel. Jehovah values your loyalty. (Read 1 Chronicles 28:9.) What situations could test your loyalty to him, and how can you deal with them?

1. How could others test our loyalty to Jehovah? Some people will try to prevent us from serving Jehovah. Who would do such a thing? Some who have left the truth tell lies about God’s organization in order to destroy our faith. They are called apostates. Also, some religious leaders spread false information about us to cause unsuspecting ones to leave the truth. It is dangerous for us to argue with any opposers, to read their books or blogs, to go to their websites, or to watch their videos. Regarding those who try to discourage others from loyally serving Jehovah, Jesus said: “Let them be. Blind guides is what they are. If, then, a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit.”—Matthew 15:14.