

**Isaiah**

**The Lord Is Salvation**

**Judah**

**Saved**

**Isaiah 37:30-38**

**Lesson Forty-Four**

*Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum*

# Isaiah

**The Lord Is Salvation**

## Judah Saved

We could also call this lesson, “Sennacherib Defeated.” We have watched, in the last few lessons, while Hezekiah and Judah trembled in fear as the Assyrian army surrounded Jerusalem and while Sennacherib made threat after threat. But, things change.. Read Isaiah 37:30-38

First we have a word from God for Hezekiah. It is a picture of good crops. Now, in our day, most of us hardly ever think about how good the crop is, unless we are a farmer. Most all our food is bought by some large company, distributed fresh, canned or frozen to our grocery store and we get it there. Occasionally, a bad crop because of drought or bad weather will cause something like citrus, fresh vegetables, or coffee to be in short supply. Most of the time, those things can be purchased from another part of the world at a higher price.

But at this time we are reading about in Isaiah, a bad crop meant that people and even animals went hungry. Also, in this case, when the Assyrian army was camped around Jerusalem, the farmers couldn't get into the city to sell their crops. So, when God talks to Hezekiah about eating, it would be serious talk.

Verse 30 may seem confusing, but let's see if we can work it out. What it seems to say is that it is too late to plant a crop this year. The Assyrians have seen to that. So they will eat what will grow up in the fields, and around the threshing floors, from seeds dropped there at harvest time last year. In other words, what grows wild. By the time the Assyrians have gone, and their destruction dealt with, another year will have passed and the harvest will be from the seeds of the left-over crop of this year. Finally, in the third year cultivating and planting will be normal and crops will be good again.

The Message translation puts it this way, “This year's crops will be slim pickings, and next year it won't be much better. But, in three years, farming will be back to normal...”

God said that like a plant, those who remained in Jerusalem would send down roots and produce fruit as they grow up. He promised that there would be strong survivors who would become the backbone of a new Judah. God was counting on this remnant to become strong. And, to be sure that Hezekiah understood the seriousness of the promise, Isaiah said, “The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.” The success would not depend on what humans could do; It was the power of God that would get it done.

Next, God tells Isaiah that Sennacherib will not enter Jerusalem. Remember, the mighty Assyrian army is camped on the hills outside Jerusalem where the Judeans could see them. They looked like a lion about ready to pounce on the city.

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God said, Don't worry. Not only would they not enter the city, this great army with hundreds, probably thousands, of bows and arrows will not even shoot a single arrow into the city of Jerusalem. While this was being spoken, soldiers from Assyria may have been doing target practice where the Judeans could see them.

Then God said that there would be no soldiers marching toward the city with their shields held up and there will be no ramps built to scale the walls of Jerusalem.

The wall of Jerusalem was not necessary. God was their protection. Arrows could be shot over the walls, soldiers could march against those who protected the city, the enemy could even build ramps high enough for the soldiers to get over the walls, but no one, no army, no matter how large and strong, could penetrate the protective wall that God built.

God had a purpose for His chosen people, so He would protect them for now. They had, in fear, suffered the attack of Assyria. They were frightened and felt helpless. But, God was determined to save them, and save them He did.

With an amazing miracle, the army of Assyria was slaughtered. Verse thirty-six says that an angel of the Lord went out to where the Assyrians were camped. One hundred and eighty-five Assyrian soldiers died in one night. Amazing. We don't know how they were killed, but we are reminded of the time when the Israelites were trying to leave Egypt and God sent the "death angel" to kill the first-born of every family not displaying the blood on their doorpost.

The Bible simply says that when the people woke up the next morning, they saw the bodies of one hundred and eighty-five Assyrian soldiers lying on the ground, lifeless.

The final days of Sennacherib. We get in the last two verses that Sennacherib went home and some time later, he was assassinated by his own sons. What a terrible end to his life.

What we need to see in this lesson is that God has a plan, and it will be accomplished. He also will carryout His plan and protect His people, when we trust Him.

\*Underlined words and phrases are to be used in completing the Student Worksheet.

**Scripture Memory:** "Once more a remnant of the house of Judah will take root below and bear fruit above." Isaiah 37:31a

**Lesson Goal:** To show students the power of God, and how He uses that power for His people.

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## Student Worksheet

### **Judah Saved—Isaiah 37:30-38**

As the teacher goes through the lesson, listen for answers to these:

1. How long would it take for Jerusalem to be eating from intentionally planted crops?
2. What would be responsible for the success of the recovery of Judah?
3. What was the promises God made Hezekiah about Sennacherib and his army?
4. What happened to 185,000 Assyrian soldiers?
5. What we need to see in this lesson is that God has a \_\_\_\_\_, and it will be accomplished.  
He also will carryout His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ His people, when we \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**Scripture Memory:** “Once more a remnant of the house of Judah will take root below and bear fruit above.” Isaiah 37:31a

#### **How to begin a Personal Relationship with God:**

First, believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.

Second, believe that Jesus, God's Son, was sent to earth to die so that you can have a relationship with God.

Third, ask God to forgive your sins in Jesus' name. Jesus' death on the cross paid the price of every sin you commit.

Fourth, ask Jesus to be your Savior and the Lord of your life.