

Lesson 1 – Hezekiah**2 Kings 18-21; 2 Chron. 29-33; Isa. 36-39**

The complex chronology of Hezekiah's reign has been discussed in a separate handout. This lesson is based on the following timeline of major events:

726 – Hezekiah begins to reign and lead reforms in Judah

723-721 – Samaria is besieged and conquered

713 – Sennacherib takes fortified cities in Judah, but Hezekiah resumes tribute

701 – Sennacherib's army camps around Jerusalem but is killed by God

681 – Sennacherib is assassinated in Nineveh

680-670 – Esarhaddon resettles Samaria

671 – Assyria conquered Egypt

c. 660-650 – Esarhaddon exiles King Manasseh

1. When did Hezekiah begin his reforms? (2 Chron. 29:3)
2. What prophet influenced Hezekiah to seek the Lord? (Jer. 26:18-19)
3. What had been neglected under those before Hezekiah? (2 Chron. 29:3-19)
4. Who did Hezekiah invite to the Passover? How did those invited respond?
(2 Chron. 30:1, 5-7, 10-11)
5. Why couldn't they keep the Passover in the first month? Was their delayed observance lawful? (2 Chron. 30:2-4; Num. 9:6-12)

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6. What else did Hezekiah do? (Prov. 25:1)
7. What happened to Samaria in Hezekiah's fourth year? (2 Kings 18:19-20)
8. Ahaz had made Judah a vassal to Assyria (2 Kings 16:7-8; 2 Chron. 28:21).
Did Hezekiah continue this tribute? (2 Kings 18:7)
9. How did Sennacherib respond to Hezekiah's rebellion? (2 Kings 18:13)
10. How did Hezekiah stop Sennacherib from attacking Judah? (2 Kings 18:14-16)
11. What résumé did the Assyrians use to intimidate the Jews? (2 Kings 18:33-35;
19:11-13; 2 Chron. 32:19)
12. Upon hearing Assyria's threats, what did Hezekiah do? (2 Kings 19:1-4)
13. What did Isaiah tell Hezekiah? (2 Kings 19:5-7, 32-34)
14. What was ironic about Sennacherib's boastful blasphemies? (Isa. 37:23-29)
15. From Hezekiah's prayer, what impact should Judah's deliverance have on the world? (2 Kings 19:14-19)
16. How was Jerusalem saved from the Assyrian siege? (2 Kings 19:35-36)

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17. What ultimately happened to Sennacherib? (2 Kings 19:37)
18. What does Hezekiah's illness and recovery teach us about prayer?
(2 Kings 20:1-11)
19. With what nation did Judah become allied? Why do you think this king wanted a friendship with Judah? What did Isaiah prophesy about the future relationship between the two nations? (2 Kings 20:12-19)
20. How old was Manasseh when he began to reign? How long did he reign? Did he follow his father's example? (2 Kings 21:1-9)
21. How did God punish Manasseh? What effect did it have? (2 Chron. 33:10-16)
22. Extra Credit: Hezekiah encouraged his people in 2 Chron. 32:7-8. Who else said the following or similar words:
 - a) "Be strong and courageous" (Deut. 31:6-7; 31:23; Josh. 1:6, 18; 10:25; 1 Chron. 28:20)
 - b) "There are more with us than with him" (2 Kings 6:16)
 - c) "With us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles"
(Exo. 14:14; Deut. 3:22; Josh. 23:3; 1 Sam. 17:47; 2 Chron. 20:15; Neh. 4:20)