

How To Face Struggle

Part 3A

“After all that Hezekiah had so faithfully done, Sennacherib king of Assyria came and invaded Judah. He laid siege to the fortified cities, thinking to conquer them for himself. ² When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come and that he intended to make war on Jerusalem, ³ he consulted with his officials and military staff about blocking off the water from the springs outside the city, and they helped him. ⁴ A large force of men assembled, and they blocked all the springs and the stream that flowed through the land. “Why should the kings of Assyria come and find plenty of water?” they said. ⁵ Then he worked hard repairing all the broken sections of the wall and building towers on it. He built another wall outside that one and reinforced the supporting terraces of the City of David. He also made large numbers of weapons and shields.” (2Chronicles 32:1-5)

Struggles can come and invade our lives with sudden onset and without any previous notice or expectations, but how we face them and how we can overcome, that what we will be going to learn from the word of God.

King Hezekiah was a righteous king; he did what is right and just. He motivated and directed the people to follow God and obey His decrees and they responded to that in doing the following: They removed and smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. They destroyed the high places and the altars throughout Judah and Benjamin and in Ephraim and Manasseh.

After all that obedient act that was done faithfully, **“Sennacherib king of Assyria came and invaded Judah. He laid siege to the fortified cities, thinking to conquer them for himself.”** That was a devil attack against the people of God to discourage them and to stop them from obeying and following the Lord.

In studying the Scripture we can learn certain facts that teach us how to face a struggle that come suddenly in our lives. Yes God will fight the battle, but we have certain rule we need to do:

1- Discern and evaluate the coming danger: **“When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come and that he intended to make war on Jerusalem.”** King Hezekiah discerned and saw the danger. The same for you, you need to be alert in the spirit and see things clearly, evaluate the dangers and respond appropriately to them.

2- Consult appropriate godly people of what you are about to do: King Hezekiah, **“he consulted with his officials and military staff about blocking off the water from the springs outside the city.”** God had placed you in the church, and the church is the family of God therefore when you see and discern a coming struggle asks advice and counsel from the leaders and the elders of the church who will help you and support you to take the right decision and the right steps.

3- Redirect your resources, don't allow the devil to use them against you, and be good steward of what you have: King Hezekiah blocked the water from the spring, **““Why should the kings of Assyria come and find plenty of water?” they said.”** See and check your life, is your resources can be used to serve Devil? Is your life, time, talents, money and possession can be used by your enemy; they got relief while you will be harmed? If that is

true then you need to redirect these resources away from the enemy toward your side and the people of God, the church. Be wise and swift in doing that. You need not to feed the devil that working to harm you.

4- Unity is needed: “A large force of men assembled.” In facing a struggle we as a church needs to be united so we can direct all what we have in the right direction to face and combat the struggle.

5- Help can be received from the body of Christ: “A large force of men assembled, and they blocked all the springs and the stream that flowed through the land.” God had placed us in His church that is his body in order that we will not be alone in facing struggles. Also God call us to be in his body to be ready to help those who face a struggle as the word of God admonishes us, **“Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)**

6- Work hard to rebuild your life to live in safety: When King Hezekiah was faced with that big army danger, **“he worked hard repairing all the broken sections of the wall and building towers on it.”** Threats and dangers are good opportunities for us to see what are the footholds of devil in our lives that he may use to penetrate and cause harm; the word of God tells us, **“and do not give the devil a foothold.” (Ephesians 4:27)** Small mistakes and small sins as you say they are big and spacious opportunities for Devil to enter and destroy your life.

7- Be alert and quick in response to deal with sins in your life: “Then he worked hard repairing all the broken sections of the wall and building towers on it.” Big forest fire can start from small spark. Lies, few worldly friends, small amount of wine, few cigarettes, anxiety, anger, unforgiveness, etc, are the things that need to be repaired and rebuild in your lives. Work hard with God and allow the Holy Spirit to have you fully and get repented of all these sins and instead cultivate the fruit of the Holy Spirit that God wants to see in your life.

8- Reinforce useful protective measure in your life: King Hezekiah, **“He built another wall outside that one and reinforced the supporting terraces of the City of David.”** You have to stop sin but that is not enough, there are things good you need to do in your life to be protected. The bible tells us the following, **“Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.” (James 4:17)** There are things you need to abide so the devil will not be able to penetrate you. King Hezekiah faced the invasion by the following: **He also made large numbers of weapons and shields.** The following are some of the weapons that add reinforcement and protection to your life: reading the bible, a life of prayer, fasting, regularly be in the church, be with the right and godly people, tithe your income regularly, serve God with all your resources, etc, these are weapons that God give to you to protect you and put you in the right atmosphere and the healthy circumstances that will help you in facing struggles.

My Dear and Beloved: Sit with the Lord and meditate on the message and see how you can apply the message practically into your life and be blessed as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God in heaven, I come before you in Jesus name who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord gives me wisdom and takes my anxiety away so I can think peacefully how I can face any struggle coming in my life. Lord upholds me with your grace and grants me the victory over my enemy. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.*