

LESSON 2: THE REIGNS OF HEZEKIAH, MANASSEH, AND AMON (2 KINGS 18-21) · · · · HISTORY

MEMORY. Memorize the kings of Judah starting with Rehoboam and ending with Zedekiah. (You may find the following song to be a helpful memory device: https://youtu.be/eGoX\_FcVLX4.)



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READING. Read 2 Kgs 18-21. After doing your reading, in the space below write down something that you found to be interesting or important. It can be something that you have never noticed before or something that you want to remember and apply.



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## DISCUSSION.

1. Hezekiah. How does Scripture describe Hezekiah? (2 Kgs 18:3-6) What happened to Israel during Hezekiah's reign? (vv. 9-12) Summarize the Assyrian attack on Judah (18:13-19:37).

The Taylor Prism and the Oriental Institute Prism include the record of Sennacherib regarding his campaign against Judah.



Taylor Prism (London)



Oriental Institute Prism (Chicago)

As for Hezekiah, the Judean, who did not submit to my yoke, I laid siege to forty-six of his strong walled cities and to countless small villages in their vicinity and conquered them by means of beaten-earth ramps which allowed me to bring battering-rams near the walls combined with assault by infantry and breeches, tunneling, and sapper operations. I drove out of them 200,150 people, young and old, male and female, as well as innumerable horses, mules, donkeys, camels, large and small cattle, and considered them spoils of war. [Hezekiah] himself I made a prisoner in Jerusalem, his royal residence, like a bird in a cage. I erected earthworks around the city to prevent the escape of any who tried to leave by the city gate. I terminated his jurisdiction over this towns which I had plundered and gave them to Mitinti, king of Ashdod, Padi, king of Ekron, and Sillibel, king of Gaza, and so reduced his territory....



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Nevertheless, in addition to his former annual tribute, I increased the amount of tribute to be given as katru-presents due to me as his overlord. Hezekiah himself, overwhelmed by the terror-inspiring splendor of my lordship and deserted by the irregular and elite troupes which he had brought in to strengthen Jerusalem, his royal city, later sent me in Nineveh, my lordly city, 30 relents of gold, 800 talents of silver, precious stones, antimony, large blocks of red stone, beds and charis inlaid with ivory, elephant hides, ivory tusks, ebony-wood, boxwood, all kinds of valuable treasures, as well as his daughters, concubines, male and female musicians. He sent a personal messenger to deliver the tribute and render homage as a slave.

William H. Stiebing Jr., Ancient Near Eastern History and Culture, 281



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## DISCUSSION.

1. Hezekiah. When Hezekiah became sick, why did God heal him? (20:1-11) To whom did Hezekiah show his treasures, and what did Isaiah tell him would happen in subsequent generations? (vv. 12-19)



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2. Manasseh. In what way(s) did Manasseh rebel against God? (2 Kgs 21:2-9, 16-17) How did God respond? (vv. 10-15) Compare 2 Kgs 21:1-18 with 2 Chron 33:1-20. What part of Manasseh's story does the Chronicler include that the author of Kings omits? Why do you suppose it is included in Chronicles but not in Kings?



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3. Amon. Amon was the son of whom? (2 Kgs 21:19) What aspects of his father's life did Amon emulate, and what eventually happened to Amon? (vv. 20-24; cf. 2 Chron 33:22-25)



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CONNECTION. The Old Testament (OT) points forward to Christ and the New Testament (NT). Record any significant OT-NT connections that you observe in 2 Kgs 18-21. In addition, answer the following question and be ready to discuss: How does Eliakim preview Jesus? (2 Kgs 18:18, 26, 37; 19:2; [cf. Isa 36:3, 11, 22; 37:2]; Isa 22:15-25; Rev 3:7-13; cf. 1:17-18)



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APPLICATION. Read the prayer of Hezekiah in 2 Kgs 19:15-19. Adapt the words of this prayer to fit a modern context and then pray them for yourself. Pray your prayer every day until the next class period and record below how using the prayer of Hezekiah has helped you spiritually.