

November 21, 2021
2 Kings 19:20-37



I. God's plan for punishing sin is unchanging.

Hitting Home

What from Sunday's sermon stood out to you the most? Why?

Where You Live

Christmas is just around the corner which means...planning. Schedules have to be coordinated, travel plans made, menus planned, gifts purchased. For some, with multiple sets of grandparents and in-laws, the Christmas season can become nightmarish.

When have you planned something very important to you (maybe Christmas plans, vacation...maybe even the college you thought you would attend) and those plans didn't work out?

II. God's plan for his people is hopeful.

Digging Deeper

Sunday Alan-Michael preached about how God's plans cannot be stopped. Hezekiah, concerned for the welfare of his people in Jerusalem, has prayed to God for help. Sennacherib, king of Assyria, continues to taunt them with threats of invasion and destruction.

God answers. **Read the following passage. As you do, remember that God is answering Hezekiah and the people. Underline the word "I" when it refers to Assyria, and circle the word "I" when it refers to God.**

[20] Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Your prayer to me about Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard. [21] This is the word that the LORD has spoken concerning him: "She despises you, she scorns you—the virgin daughter of Zion; she wags her head behind you—the daughter of Jerusalem. [22] "Whom have you mocked and reviled? Against whom have you raised your voice and lifted your eyes to the heights? Against the Holy One of Israel! [23] By your messengers you have mocked the Lord, and you have said, 'With my many chariots I have gone up the heights of the mountains, to the far recesses of Lebanon; I felled its tallest cedars, its choicest cypresses; I entered its farthest lodging place, its most fruitful

forest. [24] I dug wells and drank foreign waters, and I dried up with the sole of my foot all the streams of Egypt.' [25] "Have you not heard that I determined it long ago? I planned from days of old what now I bring to pass, that you should turn fortified cities into heaps of ruins [26] while their inhabitants, shorn of strength, are dismayed and confounded, and have become like plants of the field and like tender grass, like grass on the housetops, blighted before it is grown. [27] "But I know your sitting down and your going out and coming in, and your raging against me. [28] Because you have raged against me and your complacency has come into my ears, I will put my hook in your nose and my bit in your mouth, and I will turn you back on the way by which you came. (ESV)

Look at God's response to Assyria's list of "I's" beginning in verse 15. Write down the first word that follows each of the "I's" beginning in verse 26.

From God's response to Hezekiah's prayer, we gain invaluable insight into the the sovereignty of God. God's sovereignty is his divine rule over the events of human history. Sometimes we can overcomplicate the things of God. While God's sovereignty is a lofty reality, the way it is defined here is not. **Using a simple online dictionary (or your own words) define the following words:**

Determined

Planned

Know

Will (as a verb)

Taking it Home

Read these verses.

[1] The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD. [2] All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit.[3] Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established. [4] The LORD has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble.(Proverbs 16:1-4, ESV)

Write in one column what man does and in another what God does.

Man

God

Notice that God has even made the wicked for the day of trouble! And that includes Sennacherib. The reality is that Hezekiah cannot see this until God tells him.

When have you been in a situation that seemed completely confusing, and then you saw God work? Share with your group what it seemed like then...and what you now know. How can you now see the sovereignty of God?

What are you experiencing right now that seems unfair? Confusing? Bewildering? How would you like to see God work?

Praying for One Another's One

Remember that we are praying for someone who will join us for worship on December 19th. Go around the circle and pray for one another's One!