

Lesson 10 | February 6, 2022

God to the Rescue

Study Text: 2 Kings 18:17 through 19:37

Central Truth: Because of God's awesome power, the Christian does not need to fear the Enemy.

Key Verse: 2 Kings 19:35

The angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses (KJV).

That night the angel of the Lord went out to the Assyrian camp and killed 185,000 Assyrian soldiers. When the surviving Assyrians woke up the next morning, they found corpses everywhere (NLT).

Learning Objectives

- Students should recognize that there will be trying times as they move through the life of faith.
- Students should understand that they need not fear their enemies as they trust in God.
- Students should find comfort in praising God through the hard times of life.

Introducing the Lesson

Say: Most people enjoy “underdog stories,” such as stories of a sports team from a small, unlikely school that manages to win a victory over a large, seemingly unbeatable opponent. Today's study finds the people of Judah hopelessly outmatched by the enemy. But God himself intervened in a supernatural way to bring His people the victory.

Opening Activity—When All Hope Is Gone

Ask: What seemingly hopeless situations might believers find themselves in where only a supernatural intervention can make a difference?

Say: God's love for His wayward people is demonstrated in the events of these chapters. Although Judah had fallen far from Him, He rescued them from a powerful enemy. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

The events of 2 Kings 18–19 follow decades of spiritual decay in Judah. King Uzziah, who ruled in the first half of the eighth century BC, had done right in God's eyes, although he did not tear down pagan shrines (see 2 Kings 15:1–4). But his grandson, Ahaz, thoroughly turned his back on God and even made Judah pay tribute to Assyria (the nation that took the Northern Kingdom into captivity during Ahaz's reign). Tribute

was a payment from one nation to another as a sign of submission or a plea for protection (note 2 Kings 16:8). The reign of Ahaz carried Judah to a low point of immorality and idolatry.

Then Ahaz died and his young son Hezekiah came to the throne. King Hezekiah led the nation into revival. But this revival faded, and many of the people returned to their sinful ways, which would ultimately lead to God allowing King Sennacherib of Assyria to attack Judah.

Part 1—God’s People Threatened

Whom Are You Trusting? 2 Kings 18:17–27

[2Ki 18:17-27 KJV] 17 And the king of Assyria sent Tartan and Rabsaris and Rabshakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a great host against Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which [is] in the highway of the fuller's field. 18 And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which [was] over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder. 19 And Rabshakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence [is] this wherein thou trustest? 20 Thou sayest, (but [they are but] vain words,) [I have] counsel and strength for the war. Now on whom dost thou trust, that thou rebellest against me? 21 Now, behold, thou trustest upon the staff of this bruised reed, [even] upon Egypt, on which if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so [is] Pharaoh king of Egypt unto all that trust on him. 22 But if ye say unto me, We trust in the LORD our God: [is] not that he, whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem? 23 Now therefore, I pray thee, give pledges to my lord the king of Assyria, and I will deliver thee two thousand horses, if thou be able on thy part to set riders upon them. 24 How then wilt thou turn away the face of one captain of the

least of my master's servants, and put thy trust on Egypt for chariots and for horsemen? 25 Am I now come up without the LORD against this place to destroy it? The LORD said to me, Go up against this land, and destroy it. 26 Then said Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, and Shebna, and Joah, unto Rabshakeh, Speak, I pray thee, to thy servants in the Syrian language; for we understand [it]: and talk not with us in the Jews' language in the ears of the people that [are] on the wall. 27 But Rabshakeh said unto them, Hath my master sent me to thy master, and to thee, to speak these words? [hath he] not [sent me] to the men which sit on the wall, that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?

Say: Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, sought to threaten the very core of who the people of Judah claimed to be—servants of the Most High God. Although they lived in disobedience to God, the distinguishing feature of their beliefs was the worship of the one true God rather than the assortment of idols worshipped by the people around them. Sennacherib was not prepared to face the infinite power of the God He was disparaging. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

It is important to read 2 Kings 18 in light of the history surrounding these events. The northern kingdom of Israel had been overrun by the Assyrians and taken into captivity. And now, Judah, the Southern Kingdom, seemed to be facing the same future. King Ahaz, the predecessor to King Hezekiah, emptied Judah's coffers (including the riches of the temple), to appease the Assyrian king. But it wasn't enough, and Assyria invaded Judah. King Hezekiah—a good and godly king (see 2 Kings 18:1–4)—was forced to strip off even the gold from the temple in an attempt to appease King Sennacherib (verse 16). To this, Sennacherib delivered a terrible message in verses 17–25, designed as an attempt to break down the people's trust in the Lord. This was a frightening message from a human standpoint, as Sennacherib and the Assyrian Empire had immense power to overcome whatever nation they chose to conquer.

The passage opened with the chief advisors of Sennacherib confronting the representatives of King Hezekiah in Jerusalem (verses 17–18; note that “Rabshakeh” [KJV] is likely a reference to Sennacherib's chief of staff). **At this point, Assyria had demonstrated complete domination over other armies, and Hezekiah would have little reason to believe Judah could overcome him.**

Sennacherib was also aware of Hezekiah's devotion to and trust in the Lord, although Sennacherib thought that the Israelites worshipped God at the pagan shrines that Hezekiah had torn down (see verse 23). So this evil Assyrian king's

message begins with a question: “What are you trusting in that makes you so confident?” (Verse 19, NLT). **Words could not defeat the Assyrians (verse 20). Alliances with other nations, such as Egypt, would fail Judah as well** (verses 20–21).

Then the chief of staff mocked Israel! He challenged them saying that if he were to give Israel two thousand horses, even with the help of Egypt’s chariots, they could not defeat “the weakest contingent of my master’s troops” (verses 23–24, NLT).

Yet verse 25 was perhaps the most ominous—and the most sacrilegious—of all the claims in Sennacherib’s message. It was common for ancient kings to claim that the gods of the people they attacked had sent them to do it. This served as a type of psychological warfare. **But in this case, a pagan king claimed the one true God to be on his side. Thus, according to him, Judah could not even trust God.**

It is understandable, then, that Hezekiah’s men wanted to use Aramaic in their conversation (see verses 26–27). While Aramaic was the language of commerce and communication between nations in Old Testament times, the people of Jerusalem listening in would not understand what was being said. **But Sennacherib’s men sought to make their sinister intentions clear: The people of Judah would be best served to succumb to the Assyrians. There was no use in even trusting God, they claimed, for He had supposedly sided against His own people.**

Discuss

? What are some ways that the powers of darkness seek to intimidate God’s people and send them into despair?

? Have you ever been mocked in some way for trusting God? How did you respond, or how would you respond, in such an instance?

Who Will Rescue You?

2 Kings 18:33–36

[2Ki 18:33-36 KJV] 28 Then Rabshakeh stood and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and spake, saying, Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria: 29 Thus saith the king, Let not Hezekiah deceive you: for he shall not be able to deliver you out of his hand: 30 Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria. 31 Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, Make [an agreement] with me by a present, and come out to me, and [then]

eat ye every man of his own vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his cistern: 32 Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, The LORD will deliver us. **33 Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered at all his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? 34 Where [are] the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where [are] the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? have they delivered Samaria out of mine hand? 35 Who [are] they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of mine hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand? 36 But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not.**

Say: Sennacherib continued his verbal assault on the people of Judah by comparing the God of Judah to the false gods worshipped by other nations he had conquered. He challenged them by questioning who would rescue them, assuming their God was no more powerful than those of nations he had already conquered. Wisely, the people followed Hezekiah's instructions and did not respond. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Assyria's threats continued in 2 Kings 18:33. Hezekiah had tried to assure the people that they could trust in the Lord. This was the declaration of the prophet Isaiah, whose ministry was taking place at that time: "I will rescue you and this city from the king of Assyria. Yes, I will defend this city" (Isaiah 38:6, NLT; see all of chapter 38).

Sennacherib mocked the notion that Judah's God would be able to help them, pointing to the failure of the gods of nations he had conquered. For instance, Hamath and Arbad were references to cities in what is now Syria, while Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivvah were cities in Mesopotamia. These population centers were conquered by Assyria. (The great city of Babylon was even destroyed by Sennacherib in 689 BC.) It would have been inconceivable to the Assyrian king that the God of Judah could be greater than the gods of Assyria. No wonder Sennacherib felt at liberty to boast, "So what makes you think that the Lord can rescue Jerusalem from me?" (2 Kings 18:35).

As we move forward, it is important to keep in mind that the people representing Judah had no response for Sennacherib's men—because Hezekiah had instructed them not to respond (verse 36). **Their silence would represent a new stand of faith. They would trust in the Lord God to rescue them. Moses gave a similar instruction to the people of Israel when they were caught between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea. “Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today”** (Exodus 14:13, NLT).

Resource Packet Item 1: “What Now, Lord?”

Distribute the case study, and read it as a class. Then ask for four volunteers to role-play a discussion of what they should do about the problem.

Discuss

? How does adversity impact our ability to trust God? Explain.

? Why was Sennacherib so confident that he could defeat the nation of Judah?

Part 2—Hezekiah Turns to God Hezekiah Responds in Humility

2 Kings 19:1–3

37 Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which [was] over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to Hezekiah with [their] clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

[2Ki 19:1-3 KJV] 1 And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard [it], that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD. 2 And he sent Eliakim, which [was] over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz. 3 And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day [is] a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and [there is] not strength to bring forth.

Say: Hezekiah's response in 2 Kings 19 serves as a good example of what we can and should do when faced with adversity of any kind. Instead of losing hope, which is a natural human response to negative circumstances, he humbly sought the Lord. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Clearly, the people of God acted in faith when they refused to bend to the demands and arguments of Rabshakeh (thus, in essence, to Sennacherib himself). However, the king's threats were certainly frightening, in light of the battles he had already won. Furthermore, Sennacherib had issued a terrible insult to God.

King Hezekiah responded rightly, however, as he retreated to the temple—the dwelling place of the Lord—having torn his clothes and put on sackcloth (2 Kings 19:1). Tearing his garments represented his grief over the blasphemy against God that he had just heard. And by covering himself with sackcloth, the king of the Lord's people humbled himself before the Lord.

Apparently, God gave no direct answer to Hezekiah, so he sent officers and priests to the prophet Isaiah, telling him that this was a day of trouble (verses 2–3). Note that the latter part of verse 3 was a proverb of the time, which basically taught that all human power had been exhausted. Truly, if measured only by human strength and potential, Judah held no chance to defeat King Sennacherib and the Assyrians.

Discuss

? Why might God sometimes allow His people to find themselves in a situation where there is clearly no hope within themselves?

? Have you ever been in a situation where there seemed to be no hope? Explain. How did you respond?

“Perhaps the Lord Has Heard.”

2 Kings 19:4

[2Ki 19:4 KJV] 4 It may be the LORD thy God will hear all the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God; and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up [thy] prayer for the remnant that are left.

Say: When Hezekiah did not receive clear direction from God, he very wisely sought counsel and prayer from Isaiah the prophet. Likewise, we can benefit when we ask others to join us in praying for us in times of adversity. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

Clearly, King Hezekiah recognized that this crisis was ultimately rooted in spiritual issues. As a result, he knew that Isaiah, the great and influential prophet to the kings, would have a message for the king at this momentous time in

history. Perhaps the Lord had heard the vile message of Rabshakeh, and indeed of Sennacherib himself, and would enact judgment upon Assyria as punishment (2 Kings 19:4).

It is true that Hezekiah had restored the worship practices among the people back to the standard prescribed in the Law. **However, the king may have fallen short in the way in which he had pursued relations with other nations. Perhaps he had been too much like Ahaz, seeking human wisdom and military force to confront an enemy. Perhaps he had forgotten that God wins the victories over the enemies of His people. But now, Hezekiah clearly recognized the problem that he and the nation faced. And so, he asked Isaiah to seek the face of God on their behalf.**

Discuss

? Why is it sometimes hard for Christians to recognize that spiritual issues might be at the root of the battles they face?

? How do you normally respond to difficult battles? Is God the first source of help that you seek? Explain.

Resource Packet Item 2: Steps for Dealing With Adversity

Distribute the work sheet and fill in the blanks as a class or in small groups. Then discuss the question as a class.

Part 3—Almighty God Responds

“Do Not Be Afraid.”

2 Kings 19:5–19

[2Ki 19:5-19 KJV] 5 So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah. 6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me. 7 Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land. 8 So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah: for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish. 9 And when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, Behold, he is come out to fight against thee: he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying, 10 Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem

shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria. 11 Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered? 12 Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; [as] Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which [were] in Thelasar? 13 Where [is] the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivah? 14 And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD. 15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest [between] the cherubims, thou art the God, [even] thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. 16 LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God. 17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands, 18 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they [were] no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them. 19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou [art] the LORD God, [even] thou only.

Say: God did not leave His people without hope. Through the words of Isaiah, Hezekiah was encouraged. Although he did not know the details of how God would rescue them, he was assured that He would. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

King Hezekiah was rewarded for his confidence in Isaiah—which ultimately represented the king's trust in God. Isaiah did indeed have a message for the king and for the nation: Fear was not the answer. They did not need to be dismayed nor intimidated by the blasphemous words of Sennacherib and his underlings (2 Kings 19:5–6). **Instead, Israel could find great hope in the Lord, for He was about to do something amazing.**

God told Hezekiah that He would intervene on behalf of His people by “send[ing] a blast upon” Sennacherib (verse 7, KJV; “move against him,” NLT). The Hebrew word here is the familiar Hebrew term ruach, a word often translated “spirit” or “wind.” Some commentators see this as a reference to a spirit of fearfulness gripping Sennacherib. Regardless, it is most important to note that God intervened; Sennacherib’s flight would not be because of the might of God’s people, but because of the saving actions of the Lord himself.

Isaiah did not reveal how all this would take place. It was enough for Hezekiah to know that God was going to do a great thing on behalf of His people. He would deal with the Assyrian threat. Even yet, however, Sennacherib continued his psychological warfare, as revealed in the following verses. These same verses (8–13), clearly indicate that Hezekiah sent a negative response back to Sennacherib. The difference was that after the exchange found in these verses, King Hezekiah went to prayer (see verses 14–19). He had faith that God would deliver Israel. And, Hezekiah was not disappointed.

Resource Packet Item 3: Answered Prayers

Distribute the work sheet and divide the class into four small groups, assigning one Scripture passage to each group. Then share the answers in the chart and take a few minutes to pray for the requests listed.

Discuss

? Why might God have withheld telling King Hezekiah all the details as to how He would deal with Assyria?

? What are some barriers you face in times when you need to place your faith in God to protect or provide during difficult circumstances?

God Honored His Promise

2 Kings 19:32-37

[2Ki 19:32-37 KJV] 20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, [That] which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard. 21 This [is] the word that the LORD hath spoken concerning him; The virgin the daughter of Zion hath despised thee, [and] laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee. 22 Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted [thy] voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? [even] against the Holy [One] of Israel. 23 By thy

messengers thou hast reproached the Lord, and hast said, With the multitude of my chariots I am come up to the height of the mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall cedar trees thereof, [and] the choice fir trees thereof: and I will enter into the lodgings of his borders, [and into] the forest of his Carmel. 24 I have digged and drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet have I dried up all the rivers of besieged places. 25 Hast thou not heard long ago [how] I have done it, [and] of ancient times that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be to lay waste fenced cities [into] ruinous heaps. 26 Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and confounded; they were [as] the grass of the field, and [as] the green herb, [as] the grass on the housetops, and [as corn] blasted before it be grown up. 27 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy rage against me. 28 Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest. 29 And this [shall be] a sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this year such things as grow of themselves, and in the second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruits thereof. 30 And the remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall yet again take root downward, and bear fruit upward. 31 For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and they that escape out of mount Zion: the zeal of the LORD [of hosts] shall do this. 32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it. 33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD. 34 For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. 35 And it came to pass that night, that

the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they [were] all dead corpses. 36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh. 37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead.

Say: Through the words of Isaiah, Hezekiah was encouraged. God would, indeed, protect His people and bring defeat to the much larger, seemingly undefeatable, Assyrian army. As we learn to trust God more fully, we will see the evil intentions of our true enemy, Satan, defeated. (Share your highlights from the following text.)

In 2 Kings 19:32–34, the prophet Isaiah provided some additional words of hope and encouragement to King Hezekiah and the people. **Sennacherib’s army would not enter Jerusalem, or even fire an arrow upon the city. The king would instead return to Assyria. For the Lord’s own honor and for the sake of His promise to David, that his kingdom would continue (see 2 Samuel 7), for He promised that He would protect His people.**

That very night, the angel of the Lord brought sudden death to 185,000 of Sennacherib’s troops. While the means of their death is not described, we are told that the rest of the army awakened to find themselves surrounded by corpses (2 Kings 19:35). One can only imagine the terror that erupted among them amid this gruesome sight.

It is noteworthy that this particular event is recorded in secular history, outside of Scripture, by the ancient Greek historian Herodotus. He attributed this shocking defeat of Assyrians to a multitude of field mice descending and destroying materials of war such as bowstrings, leaving them vulnerable. Some have concluded that Herodotus was alluding to a rodent-borne plague. But regardless of secular speculation, we know from Scripture that this was the hand of God at work through His angel. And while God does use natural means to enact His plans, this particular event was entirely supernatural, as seen in its description.

In response to the horrors of seeing his army decimated, King Sennacherib immediately returned to the Assyrian capital of Ninevah (verse 36). We know from history that approximately twenty years later, the remainder of this prophecy of Scripture was fulfilled. On October 20, 681 BC, **the mighty King Sennacherib of the powerful Assyrian Empire was murdered by two of his sons in a coup that left another son, Esarhaddon, as the new king (verse 37).** This is a good reminder to us even today

that while God's program may seem to tarry, even for years, His plans are ultimately accomplished (see 2 Peter 3:4–9).

And so, God did rescue His people, protecting His promise to David as He answered the prayers of Hezekiah. Although we will never line up against the murderous forces of a pagan kingdom, we will face enemies that can seem insurmountable. In those moments, we do well to remember that the battle always belongs to the Lord. We can trust Him for the victory.

Discuss

? God answered Hezekiah's prayer in two phases—one immediately and one approximately twenty years later. What were those two phases?

? What are some other biblical examples you know of where God demonstrated His power over the enemies of the people of God?

What Is God Saying to Us?

Say: In a situation that seemed hopeless, with his enemies mocking him, King Hezekiah depended on God. He placed all his hopes, his confidence, and even his very life in the Lord's hands. What pressures are you facing today? Do you have any difficult decisions coming up? Are there conflicts, within your heart or with those around you, that need resolution? Always keep a proper perspective: God is there with you, ready to take on the battle you cannot face yourself. You can always be confident in entrusting your future to Him.

Living It Out

Ministry in Action

- Seek God on behalf of your battles each day for the next week.
- Encourage others by sharing God's answers to your prayers.
- Pray for wisdom to recognize spiritual battles for what they are.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday:

The Walls of Jericho Collapse.
Joshua 6:15–20

[Jos 6:15-20 KJV] 15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times. 16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city. 17 And the city shall be accursed, [even] it, and all that [are] therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that [are] with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. 18 And ye, in any wise keep [yourselves] from the accursed thing, lest ye make [yourselves] accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. 19 But all the

silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, [are] consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD. 20 So the people shouted when [the priests] blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

Tuesday:

Goliath Falls.

1 Samuel 17:48–54

[1Sa 17:48-54 KJV] 48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang [it], and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but [there was] no sword in the hand of David. 51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled. 52 And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron. 53 And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents. 54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

Wednesday:

Mouths of the Lions Shut.

Daniel 6:16–23

[Dan 6:16-23 KJV] 16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast [him] into the den of lions. [Now] the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. 17 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. 18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him. 19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. 20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: [and] the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? 21 Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. 22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also

before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. 23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

Thursday:

Funeral Procession Interrupted.

Luke 7:11–17

[Luk 7:11-17 KJV] 11 And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people. 12 Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. 13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. 14 And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare [him] stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. 15 And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother. 16 And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people. 17 And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about.

Friday:

Jail Break!

Acts 12:1–11

[Act 12:1-11 KJV] 1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth [his] hands to vex certain of the church. 2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. 3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) 4 And when he had apprehended him, he put [him] in prison, and delivered [him] to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. 5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. 6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. 7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon [him], and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from [his] hands. 8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me. 9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. 10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him. 11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his

angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and [from] all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

Saturday:

A Slain Lamb Conquers.
Revelation 5:8–14

[Rev 5:8-14 KJV] 8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four [and] twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. 9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. 11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; 12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. 13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, [be] unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. 14 And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four [and] twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.