

## Sermon Notes:

2 Kings 18:5 He (Hezekiah) trusted in the Lord God of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor who were before him.

2 Kings 18:6 For he held fast to the Lord; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the Lord had commanded Moses.

2 Kings 18:7 The Lord was with him; he prospered wherever he went. And he rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him.

2 Corinthians 2:11 Lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Ephesians 6:11 (ESV) Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Ephesians 4:27 And give no opportunity to the devil.

Isaiah 32:7 Also the schemes of the schemer are evil; He devises wicked plans to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speaks justice.

Sun Tzu in the ancient Chinese military manual The Art of War (quote)

"Knowing the enemy enable you to take the offensive, knowing yourself enables you to stand on the defensive."

### I. THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATE: LET'S MAKE A DEAL.

2 Kings 18:13 And in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, Se-nnac-he-rib king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and took them.

2 Kings 18:14 Then Hezekiah king of Judah sent to the king of Assyria at Lac-hish, saying, "I have done wrong; turn away from me; whatever you impose on me I will pay." And the king of Assyria assessed Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold.

2 Kings 18:15 So Hezekiah gave him all the silver that was found in the house of the Lord and in the treasuries of the king's house.

2 Kings 18:16 At that time Hezekiah stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the Lord, and from the pillars which Hezekiah king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

2 Kings 16:8 And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasuries of the king's house, and sent it as a present to the king of Assyria.

The family patriarch grandfather J. Paul Getty refused to pay the ransom price, famously proclaiming, "If I pay one penny now, I'll have 14 kidnapped grandchildren."

### II. THE DEVIL'S ATTACK: SCARE TACTICS.

2 Kings 18:17 "Then the king of Assyria sent ... a great army against Jerusalem, to King Hezekiah. And they went up and came to Jerusalem."

2 Kings 18:19 Then the Rab-sha-keh said to them, "Say now to Hezekiah, 'Thus says the great king, the king of Assyria: "What confidence is this in which you trust?"

2 Kings 18:20 You speak of having plans and power for war; but they are mere words. And in whom do you trust, that you rebel against me?

#### 1. THE DEVIL ALWAYS TRIES TO MAGNIFY OUR WEAKNESSES.

2 Kings 18:22 But if you say to me, 'We trust in the Lord our God,' Is it not He whose high places and whose altars Hezekiah has taken away, and said to Judah and Jerusalem, 'You shall worship before this altar in Jerusalem'?"

2 Kings 18:23 Now therefore, I urge you, give a pledge to my master the king of Assyria, and I will give you two thousand horses--if you are able on your part to put riders on them!

1 John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

#### 2. THE DEVIL LIES TO TRY TO DISTORT THE LORD'S WORD.

2 Kings 18:25 Have 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.' "

#### III. THE DEVIL'S APPROACH: DIVIDE AND CONQUER.

2 Kings 18:28 Then the Rab-sha-keh stood and called out with a loud voice in Hebrew, and spoke, saying, "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria!

2 Kings 18:29 Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he shall not be able to deliver you from his hand;

2 Kings 18:30 Nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord, saying, "The Lord will surely deliver us; this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." "

2 Kings 18:31 Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus says the king of Assyria: 'Make peace with me ...

Isaiah 36:12 But Sennacherib's chief of staff replied, "Do you think my master sent this message only to you and your master? He wants all the people to hear it, for when we put this city under siege, they will suffer along with you. They will be so hungry and thirsty that they will eat their own dung and drink their own urine."

#### IV. THE DEVIL'S APPEAL: A FALSE PEACE TREATY.

2 Kings 18:31 "... 'Make peace with me by a present and come out to me; and every one of you eat from his own vine and every one from his own fig tree, and every one of you drink the waters of his own cistern;

2 Kings 18:32 until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive groves and honey, that you may live and not die. But do not listen to Hezekiah, lest he persuade you, saying, "The Lord will deliver us."

Jeremiah 6:13 "... And from the prophet even to the priest, everyone deals falsely.

Jeremiah 6:14 "... Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace.

1 Thessalonians 5:3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction

comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.

#### IV. RIGHTFUL RESPONSES TO THE DEVIL'S DEALS.

##### 1. SILENCE IS GOLDEN: REFUSE TO NEGOTIATE.

2 Kings 18:36 But the people held their peace and answered him not a word; for the king's commandment was, "Do not answer him."

Proverbs 26:4 Do not answer a fool according to his folly, lest you also be like him.

##### 2. SUBMIT TO THE LORD: HUMBLE YOURSELF IN REPENTANCE.

2 Kings 19:1 And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, ...

##### 3. SEEK THE LORD: GO INTO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

2 Kings 19:1 .... and went into the house of the Lord.

##### 4. SPEAK TO THE LORD: PRAY EMPHASIZING GOD'S GLORY.

2 Kings 19:14 And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord, and spread it before the Lord.

2 Kings 19:15 Then Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said: "O Lord God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

2 Kings 19:16 Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear the words of Se-nnac-he-rib, which he has sent to reproach the living God.

2 Kings 19:17 Truly, Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands,

2 Kings 19:18 and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands—wood and stone. Therefore they destroyed them.

2 Kings 19:19 Now therefore, O Lord our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the Lord God, You alone."

Pastor McGee said, "Fight with us against the enemies that are killing our children.

There is a war going on in the streets of America. Well pls pray for me. Today hopefully, I am going to rescue my daughter from where she is in Las Vegas."

Also pray for anyone who tries to get in my way, that I would 'lay hands suddenly on them' & it would [be] quick & productive. Even though I am really good at hurting people, I do NOT like that, & I have tried to help them since I got saved @ 17 in Teen Challenge."

##### 5. SELECT THE PROPER WEAPONS OF WARFARE.

Ephesians 6:12 (NLT) For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

1 Corinthians 9:26 (ESV) "... I do not box as one beating the air.

2 Corinthians 10:4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal ...

2 Corinthians 10:4 (GNT) The weapons we use in our fight are not the world's weapons

Zechariah 4:6 ...'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts.

Ephesians 6:10 ... be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Scripture References:

- 2 Kings 18:5-7, 13-23, 25, 28-32, 36; 19:1, 14-19
- 2 Corinthians 2:11; 10:4
- Ephesians 6:11-12
- Isaiah 32:7
- 1 John 4:4
- Jeremiah 6:13-14
- 1 Thessalonians 5:3
- Proverbs 26:4
- Zechariah 4:6
- 1 Corinthians 9:26