

What Made Hezekiah Great?

TEXT: 2 Kings 18:1-7

INTRODUCTION:

- A. WHO WAS HEZEKIAH?
1. 12th King of Judah, son of evil Ahaz and Abi, begins reign at 25 in 726 B. C.
 2. When Israel fell, he refused to serve Assyria and fought Philistia.
 3. Forms alliance with Babylon against Assyria and fends off Sennacherib twice.
 4. Dies one year later, leaving Judah prosperous and peaceful.

B. **2 Kings 18:5.** WHAT MADE HEZEKIAH GREAT?

I. NOT HIS PARENTS.

- A. AHAZ ONE OF THE WORST KINGS(**2 Kings 16:1-4**).
- B. MANY RIGHTEOUS MEN ARISE FROM WICKED PARENT & VICE VERSA.
1. Gideon(**Judges 6:25** - father's name Joash). Josiah(**Amos 21:20**).
 2. Eli(**1 Sam 2:22-26**)and Samuel's(**8:1-3**)sons.
- C. ENVIRONMENT IMPORTANT(**Prov. 22:6**).
- D. BUT EACH MUST ANSWER FOR HIMSELF(**Ez 18:19-20; Rom 14:12**).

II. NOT HIS AGE.

- A. A YOUNG KING AT 25.
- B. EXPERIENCE DOES COUNT FOR SOMETHING(**Prov. 3:1-7**).
- C. BUT THERE IS SOMETHING GREATER(**Psa. 119:97-105**).

III. NOT HIS PRIDE.

- A. THIS WAS A WEAKNESS(**2 Kings 20:12-18**).
- B. **Prov. 16:18; Luke 12:15.** PRIDE IN THE MATERIAL.
- C. **1 Cor. 10:12.** SPIRITUAL HAUGHTINESS.

III. WHY WAS HE GREAT?

- A. HE DID WHAT WAS RIGHT IN GOD'S EYES(**vs. 3**).
1. Man's will and God's conflict(**Col. 2:8**).
 2. Man's sometimes seems so logical(**Prov. 16:25**).
 3. There is pressure to follow men(**Acts 5:29; Gal. 1:10**).
- B. HE WAS UNCOMPROMISING IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.
1. His first act was to destroy the idols & cleanse God's house (**2 Kings 18:4; 2 Chron. 29:3-11**).
 2. Immediately began reform, no hesitation or doubt(**2 Chron. 29:3, 36**).
 3. **Matt. 6:24; 1 Kings 18:21.**
- C. HE TRUSTED GOD(**vs. 5; Heb. 11:8-19, 6**).
- D. HE CLINGED TO THE LORD(**vs. 6; Heb. 3:6, 14; 4:14; 10:23**).
- E. HE DID WHAT GOD SAID(**vs. 6; John 14:15; 1 John 5:3; Matt. 7:21**).

CONCLUSION: AN EXAMPLE FOR US IN THE GOOD THINGS.