

030



The Father Knows Best

School of the Bible Class

Isaiah

Isaiah 36-39 Pt 2

030

November 20, 2022

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Indian Hills Community Church

Detectives looking for Eschatological Evidences in Isaiah

Tribulation and Kingdom Truth



Continuing

Sennacherib's Campaign

Hezekiah the Good King

**Isaiah 36-39
715 to about 686 bc,**

For Hezekiah Also See

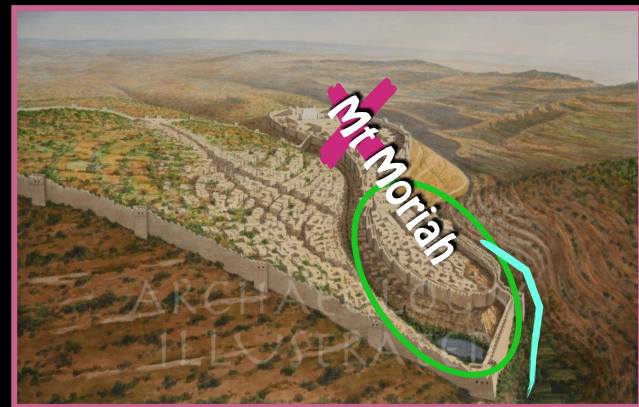
- **II Kings 18:13-20:19 for the fullest of the account see both of these text.**
- **The question is do these writer use a common document since they do not include the same materials.**
- **We have no problem with how God brings about the inspired text. Whatever the source for the “compiler” of Isaiah was (there likely was such a scribe), when it developed in its present form it has acquired the imprimatur “Inspired Text.” Moses and others preformed this function.**

Briefly the Account after 715 b.c.

- **Sennacherib has taken Israel (721 b.c.) and later all of the outlying cities in Judah. He has made his headquarters in Lachish 25 miles southwest of Jerusalem.**
- **He asks and taunts the Jews through his emissaries shaming Hezekiah to surrender the city.**
- **Short story— Hezekiah, consulting the prophet Isaiah in todays language says, “Nuts to you.” He hunkers down for a siege that could last years. (Isaiah 36:8-37:29)**

Hezekiah's Tunnel

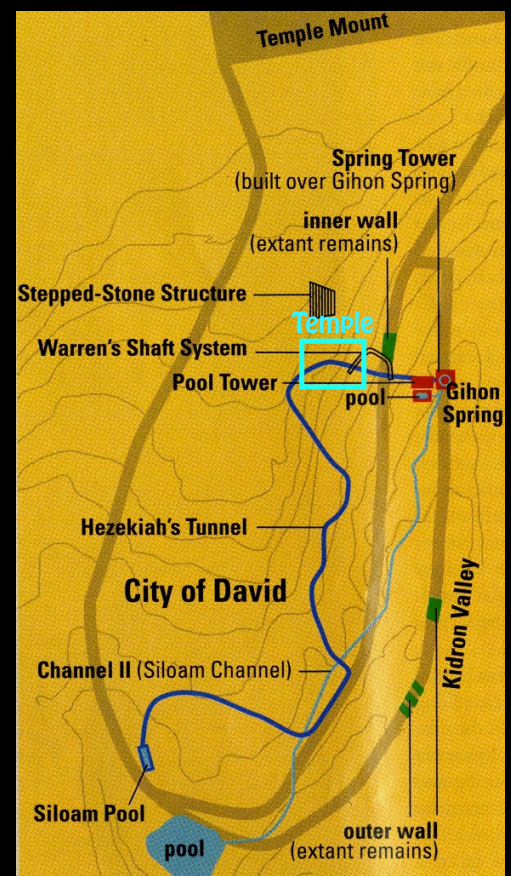
- Jerusalem (city of David) was situated in a **unique place** in the Promised land.
- Actually Mt Moriah is a ridge that rises and dies as a peak opposite~~X~~ the Mt of Olives ridge.
- The gigantic Gihon spring gushes forth water for the city.
- It spills into the Kidron Valley it also became the water source for Solomon's Temple.



The Kidron Valley between
Mt Olives and the City

Extra Temple Location

- The Temple of Solomon was build c. 990—930 b. c.
- It was “logically” build over (near) the water source needed for the temple sacrificial system.
- The location of the Temple(s) (all of them) can be anchored to the location of the spring.

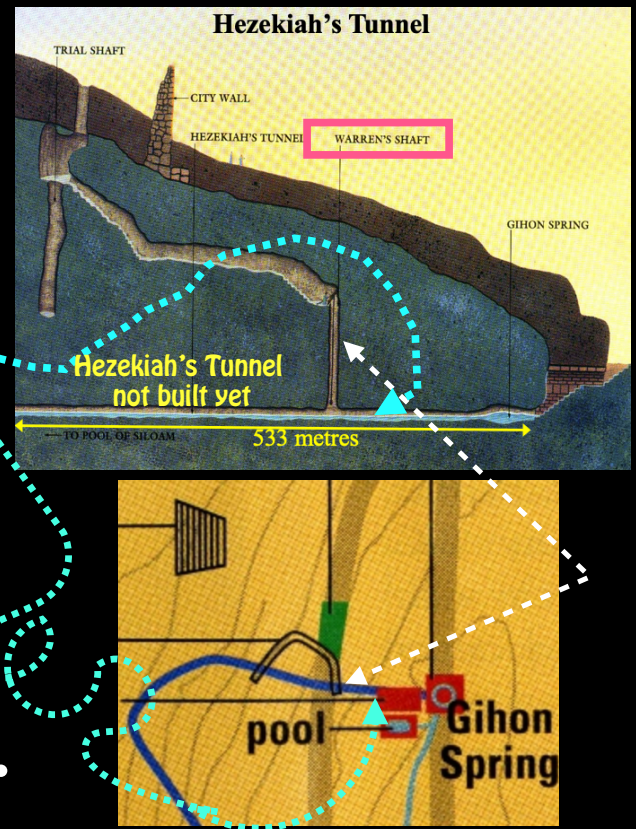


Hezekiah's Tunnel

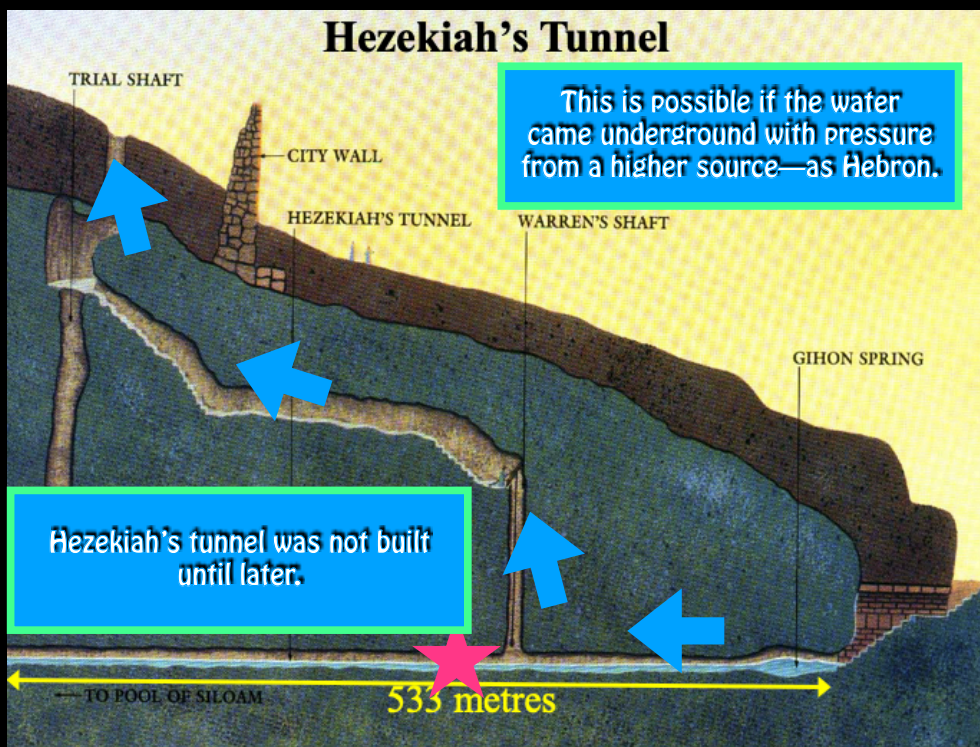
- After the fall of Israel 721 b.c. Sennacherib continues his conquests. All the cities of Judah had fallen or were to fall by the time of Hezekiah's reign 715 b. c.
- He wisely knew that if the water supply would be cut off to the city they would either all die or all would at some point need to surrender.
- So the water tunnel was completed (if not started) during or before his reign.

Extra Temple Location

- It is likely that a short horizontal shaft connected to “Warrens” shaft raised water to the Temple.
- All that was needed was to stop or limit the discharge and the water would rise to be available for the altar services.



Temple Water Source

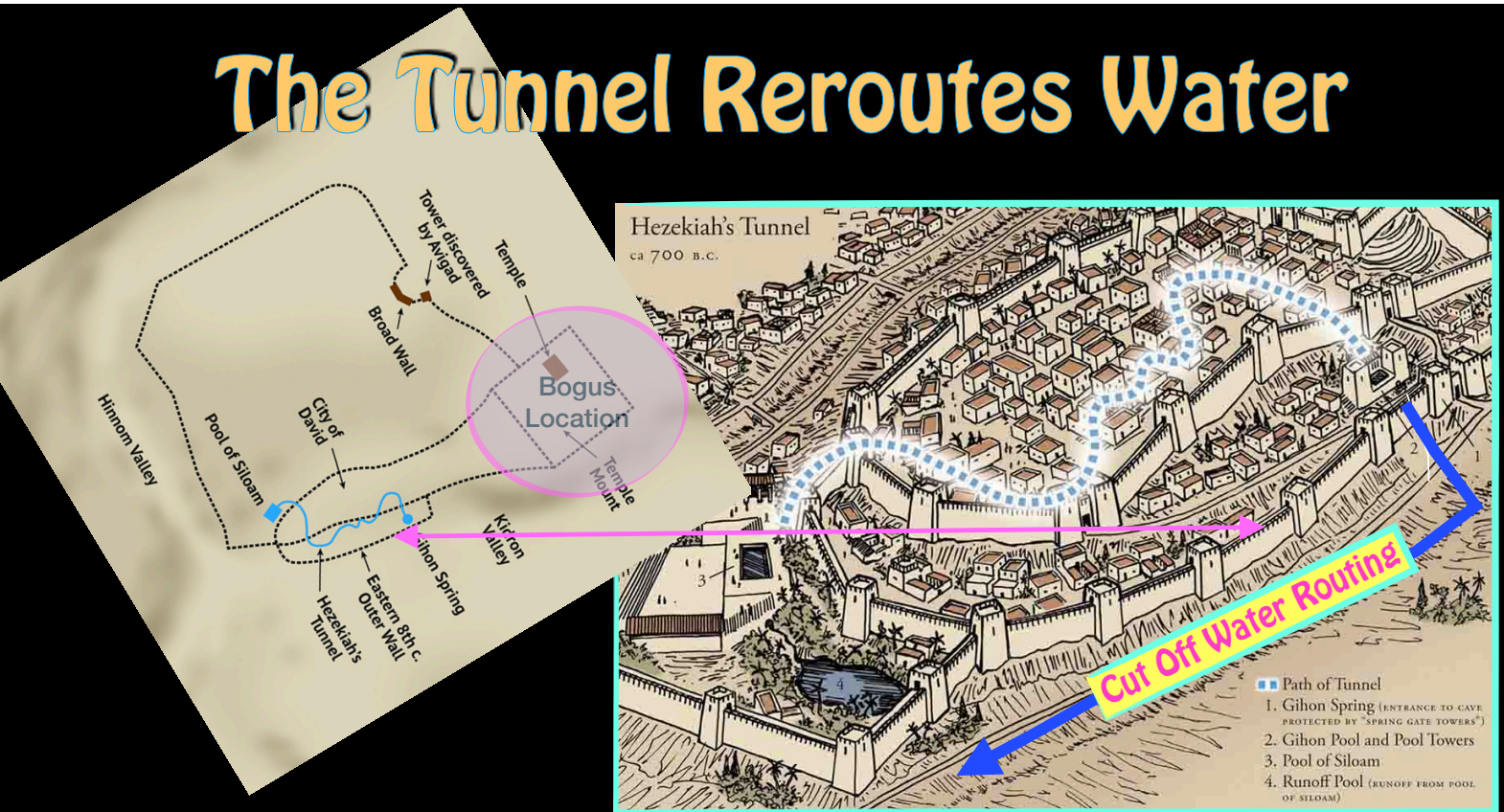


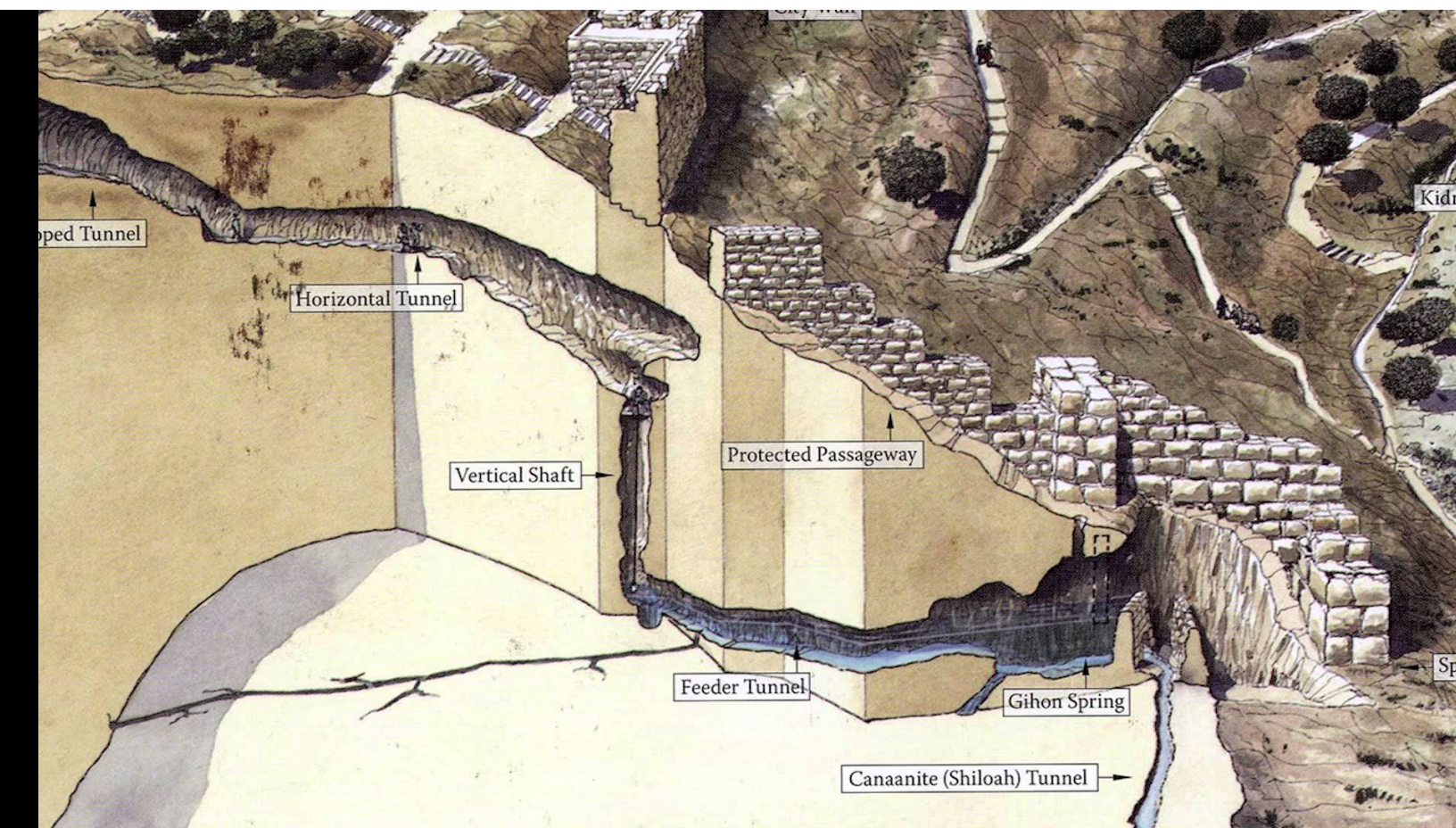
- A tunnel could carry water towards Warren's shaft and then on to the lower pool. They could cover the discharge of the spring in the Kidron Valley—the water source would be secure.

Speculation— During the Tunnel Functioning

- **When Hezekiah's tunnel was built was the water still raised to the Temple floor? Likley yes.**
- **The exiting tunnel water could easily have been throttled to allow pressure to raise it to the temple. It is hard to imagine that they would raise the water in the shaft by intensive labor—when they could do as we suggest.**
- **If not, it is possible that water buckets were lowered into the stream (Warren's Shaft) for the time the Temple was starved of its water.**
- **At this time 715 b.c. it was 129 years before the destruction of Solomon's temple c. 586 b. c. After that it did not matter until say 525-515 b. c. The Second Temple could have reinstated the water system.**

The Tunnel Reroutes Water







How Did King David Conquer Jerusalem?

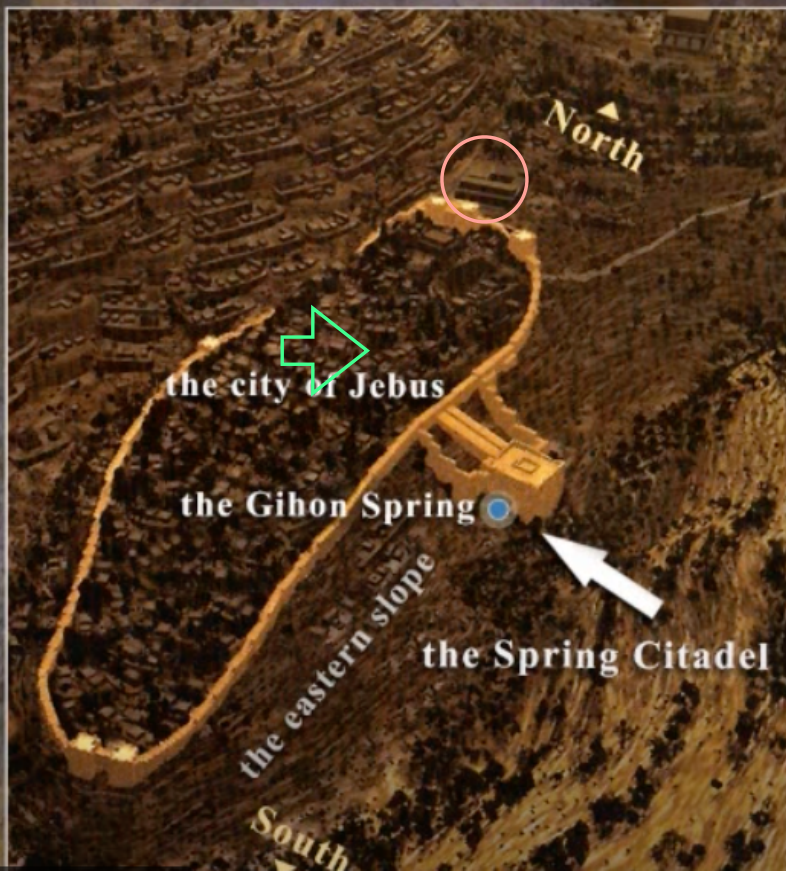


MORE VIDEOS

Artist's Idea During David's Time

How did King David conquer Jerusalem?





Jebus

- During David's Time
- Notice the high hill city is not likely. The Temple would have been lower



Temple Anchored to the Spring

- This small exercise upsets centuries of “misinformation” about the Temple location.
- Even the meticulous Jews have been duped into reimagining the Temple on the camp grounds of the Roman X Legion—the so called Temple Mount.
- **Certainly it is for God’s good reason that the Jews have lost track of their precious temple site.**
- Where will the Temple be rebuild in the Tribulation? We wonder, why not on the “Temple Mount?” Odds on favor is that it will be built over the Gihon spring—yet it has no significance in the Kingdom Temple of Ezekiel. (40ff.) Interesting: When the Lord returns and He points out that they have build the Temple on the lands of the enemy! What embarrassment of course minor to their embarrassment that they have rejected their Messiah.

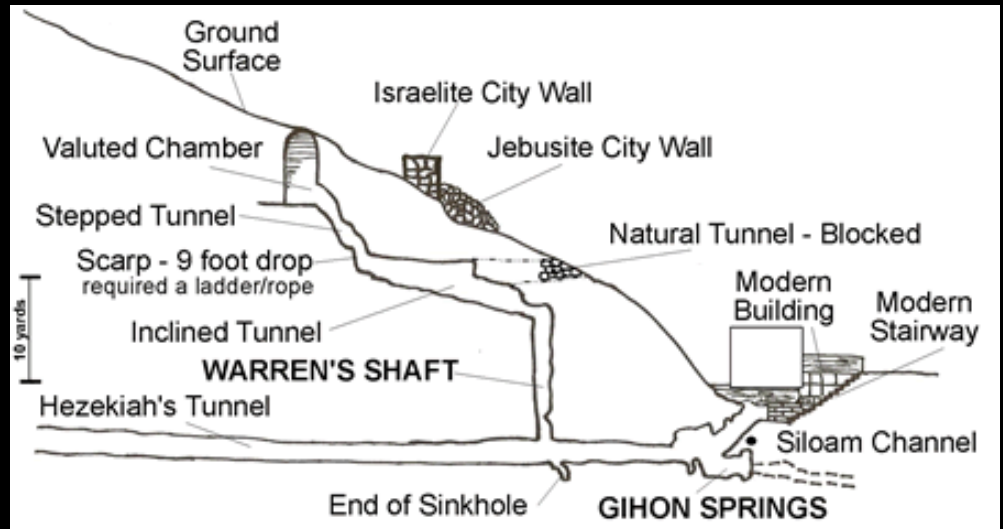
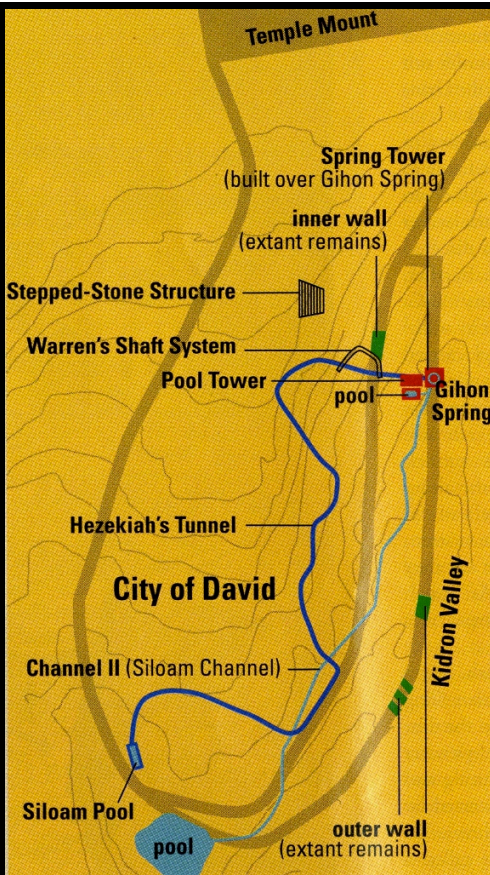
Hezekiah's Water Tunnel

- With Assyria attacking the Northern tribes (Israel) the writing was on the wall for Hezekiah when he comes to the throne 715 b.c.
- Jerusalem (Jebus) had a water source but for geographical and wall building efficiency the water had simply emptied out into the Kidron Valley—as it was outside the older Jebusite City wall.



- We have such a clue in 2 Samuel 5:8
- “David said on that day, “Whoever would strike the Jebusites, let him reach the lame and the blind, who are hated by David’s soul, through the **water tunnel.**” Therefore they say, “The blind or the lame shall not come into the house.”

Jerusalem Water Supply



David Was Acquainted with Jebus

- It was through this water shaft, that David had likely played in during his youth, he was from Bethlehem five miles south.
- David roamed far with his sheep herding duties at one place Elah 15 miles SW of Jerusalem where he encountered Goliath.



The Tunnel Inscription

Sign commemorates the event of the completion of the tunnel connecting the water from the Gihon spring. It records Jerusalem forestalling siege attempts.



Time and Builder is Not Stated

- The Jerusalem Post: “What is known for sure, though, thanks to the inscription left by the diggers after they completed their monumental feat, is how the two groups met along the last few meters of the 533-meter-long tunnel:
- “... this is the story of the tunnel, while [the hewers lifted] their axes toward their counterparts, and while three cubits more were to (be hewn?), was heard the voice of a man calling to his counterpart, (for) there was [a crack?] in the rock, on the right and on the left. And on the day of [the final barrier’s] piercing, the stonecutters struck each man towards his counterpart, ax against ax and water flowed from the source to the pool for 1,200 cubits and 100 cubits was the height of the rock, over the head of the stonecutters ...”

Time and Builder is Not Stated

- Let us not be too concerned if the date or who the king was when it was built, it may not be provable.
- What is true that when Judah needed the water source protected, it was.
- The tunnel gets Hezekiah for a moniker since he was the king who benefited from it the most.
- The feat was incredible but they could have followed the seepage crack in the rock to guide them.

Repeating the Text

- However, likely the technical siege never even began as the Lord pronounced a judgment on Sennacherib. Yes, the tunnel was built—there was a real threat.
- “Though the biblical account alludes to a siege no fighting or assaults on the city are described. Sennacherib’s threat sent from Lachish does not seem to threaten direct violence but rather says that the citizens of Jerusalem will die of hunger and thirst if they remain in the city and loyal to Hezekiah (2 Chronicles 32:9-12). This could be seen as further evidence against the idea that there was a true siege at Jerusalem in 701 BCE.” Wiki

It seems this is nothing more than a tempest in a tea pot

If Sennacherib is 25 miles away threatening the destruction of Jerusalem, it matters little if a siege engine is parked outside the city or the army is 25 miles from the city. The city was in lockdown mode. Scholars look for cracks of biblical errancy but often their eyes are blinded by the truth.

Repeating the Text

- However, a technical siege never even began as the Lord pronouncing a judgment on Sennacherib and his army.

The whole story—a prequel

- Isaiah 37:5 “So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah. 6 Isaiah said to them, “Thus you shall say to your master, ‘Thus says the Lord, “Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. 7 “Behold, I will put a spirit in him so that he will hear a rumor and return to his own land. And I will make him fall by the sword in his own land.” ’ ”

Hezekiah's Prayer

- Isaiah 37:18 “Truly, O Lord, the kings of Assyria have devastated all the countries and their lands,
- Isaiah 37:19 skip
- Isaiah 37:20 “Now, O Lord our God, deliver us from his hand that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You alone, Lord, are God.”

Message to Sennacherib

- Isaiah 37:26 “Have you not heard? Long ago I did it, From ancient times I planned it. Now I have brought it to pass, That you should turn fortified cities into ruinous heaps.
- 27 “Therefore their inhabitants were short of strength, They were dismayed and put to shame; They were as the vegetation of the field and as the green herb, As grass on the housetops is scorched before it is grown up.
- 28 “But I know your sitting down (Sennacherib) And your going out and your coming in And your raging against Me. 29 “Because of your raging against Me And because your arrogance has come up to My ears, Therefore I will put My hook in your nose And My bridle in your lips, And I will turn you back by the way which you came.

- **Isaiah 37:35 ‘For I will defend this city to save it for My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’ ” 36 Then the angel of the Lord went out and struck 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men arose early in the morning, behold, all of these were dead. 37 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and returned home and lived at Nineveh.**

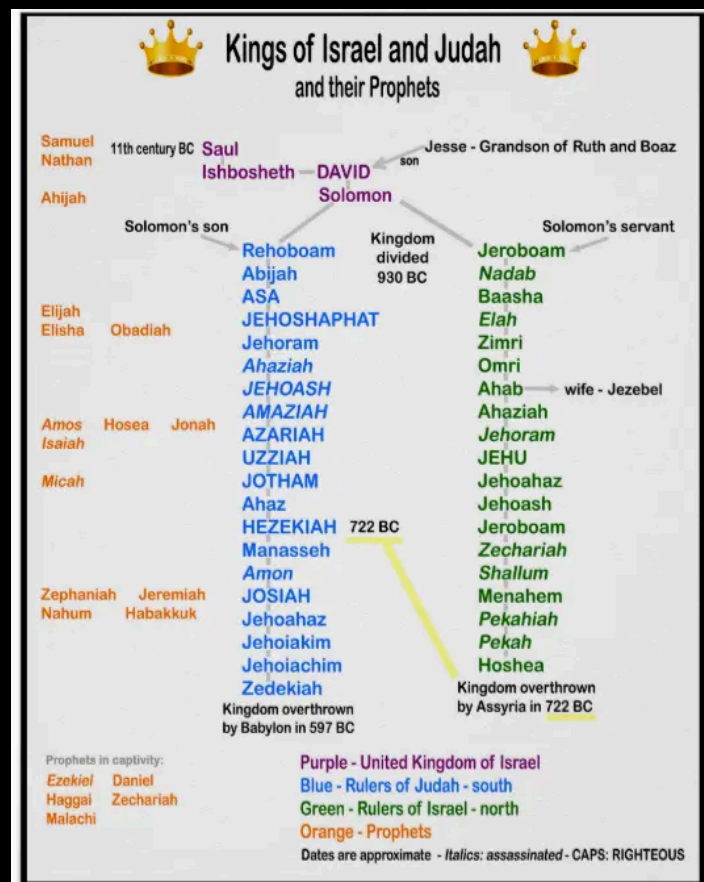
- **Isaiah 37:38 It came about (20 yrs later) as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons killed him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat.**
- **And Esarhaddon his son became king in his place.**

The Last Word After Sennacherib

- **Earlier the promise: Isaiah 37:31 “The surviving remnant of the house of Judah will again take root downward and bear fruit upward. 32 “For out of Jerusalem will go forth a remnant and out of Mount Zion survivors.**
- **“The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.” ’**
- **The same promise is in Isaiah 9:7 “the zeal”**

Hezekiah at His Best and Worst

- Somewhere along the way Hezekiah becomes morally ill. Isaiah grants 15 more years of life.
- (39) But Hezekiah in his glory with the victory, of Assyria foolishly shows his treasures to the King of Babylon.
 - Say $700-15=685$ nearly 80 yrs before Babylon invaded in 605 b.c.
- Apparently Hezekiah did not have an heir until the time of his reprieve. His son Manasseh, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin, Jehoiachin began his reign at age 12 meaning that he was born three years after his restoration.
- While judgment will fall on Judah it will be after Hezekiah dies—for which Hezekiah is grateful.



Sudden Death of the Enemy

It this a forshadowing of Rev, 20?

1 • Isaiah 37:36 “Then the angel of the Lord went out and **struck 185,000** in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men arose early in the morning, behold, **all of these were dead.**”

2 • Revelation 20:9 “And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and **devoured them.**”

“number of them is like the sands of the seashore.”
(Rev 20:8)

- Similar events. The enemies of the Lord are struck down dead. A mass execution no trial or hearing etc.
- Their guilt was to oppose the Lord God—war was threatened in both cases.
- The execution difference: (1) **bodies left**—evidence of victory. (2) **Bodies consumed**—evidence of victory is not necessary, but “house cleaning” was. Bodies would have contaminated the kingdom. No one was commissioned bury the dead.

Isaiah 40-66

We are now ready to enter the second part of Isaiah.