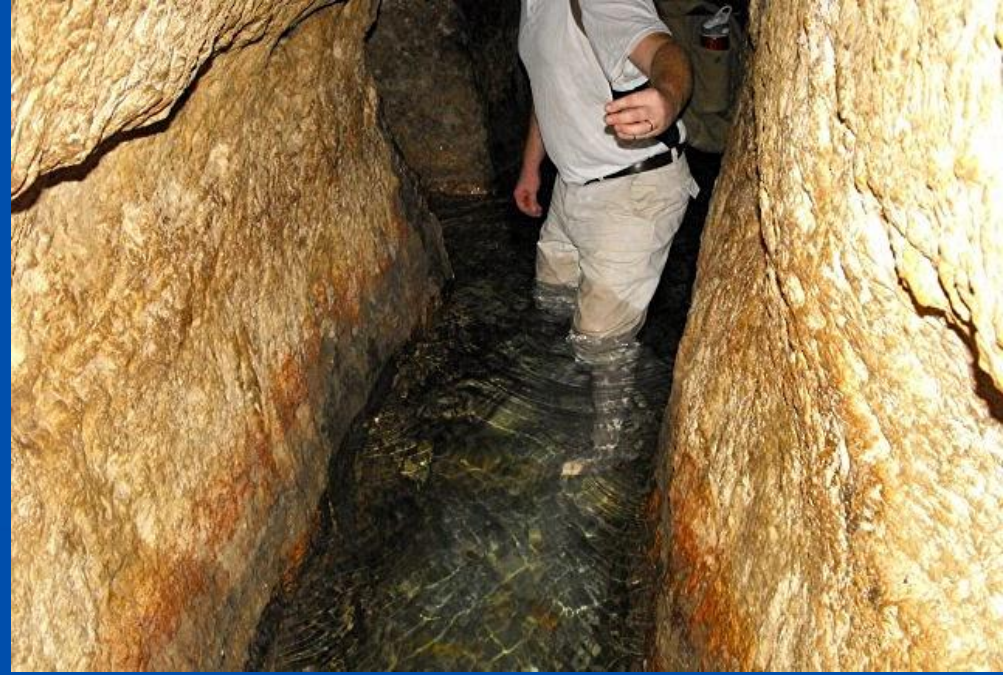


HEZEKIAH'S TUNNEL

- Built to protect the water supply of Jerusalem from the Assyrians
- Most people walk through the Old Canaanite Tunnel
- Hezekiah's Tunnel is WET !
- Tunnel inscription removed, but finally recovered




RAV-SHEKEH INSULTS YEHOVEH, GOD OF ISRAEL

- Rav-Shekeh threatens Judah on Sennacherib's behalf
- This exaggerated speech of Middle Easterners is still standard in modern times among Arabs
- 2Kings 18:25 *"...have I come to....destroy ... without Yehoveh's approval?.."*



RASH STATEMENTS

PLEASE WAIT...



RATIONALIZATION
IN PROGRESS.

- Many bible characters rationalize their actions by claiming to be doing YHWH's will
- *Be'er Moshe*, Torah commentary
- Rationalizing used to cast sin in a positive light
- Worship of sun, moon, and stars said to be OK because God created them all !
- Philosophy = Human wisdom and intellectual though



- The Lord told me to tell you.....The Lord told me to do.....
- The Lord is NEVER going to go against His own Laws and Commands in the Bible
- Be careful about thinking yourself a prophet
- To make wrong predictions and keep on “prophesying” as though you are God’s prophet is blasphemy
- People can lose faith in God because of your wrong predictions pronounced in HIS NAME!!

SATAN'S BIG LIE:

"Sin will make you happy, and there are no bad consequences."

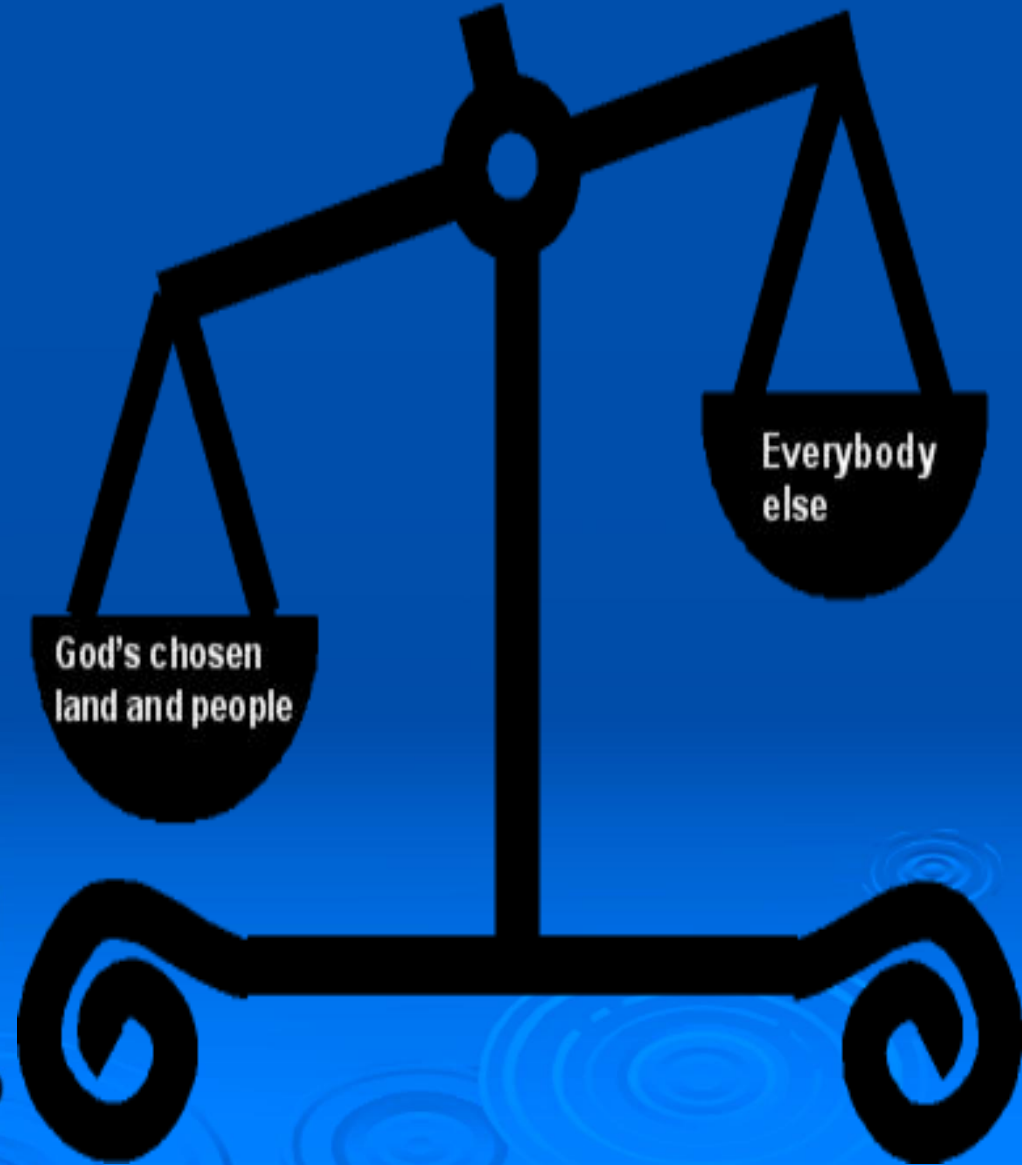


**KEEP
CALM
AND
WORSHIP
SATAN**

- Rav-Shekeh says that his master promises to deliver Judah
- Trust the King of Assyria to give you peace
- It is futile to resist
- Hezekiah tells his people NOT to respond in any way to Rav-Shekeh
- The Assyrian delegation could only report to Sennacherib that the message was delivered

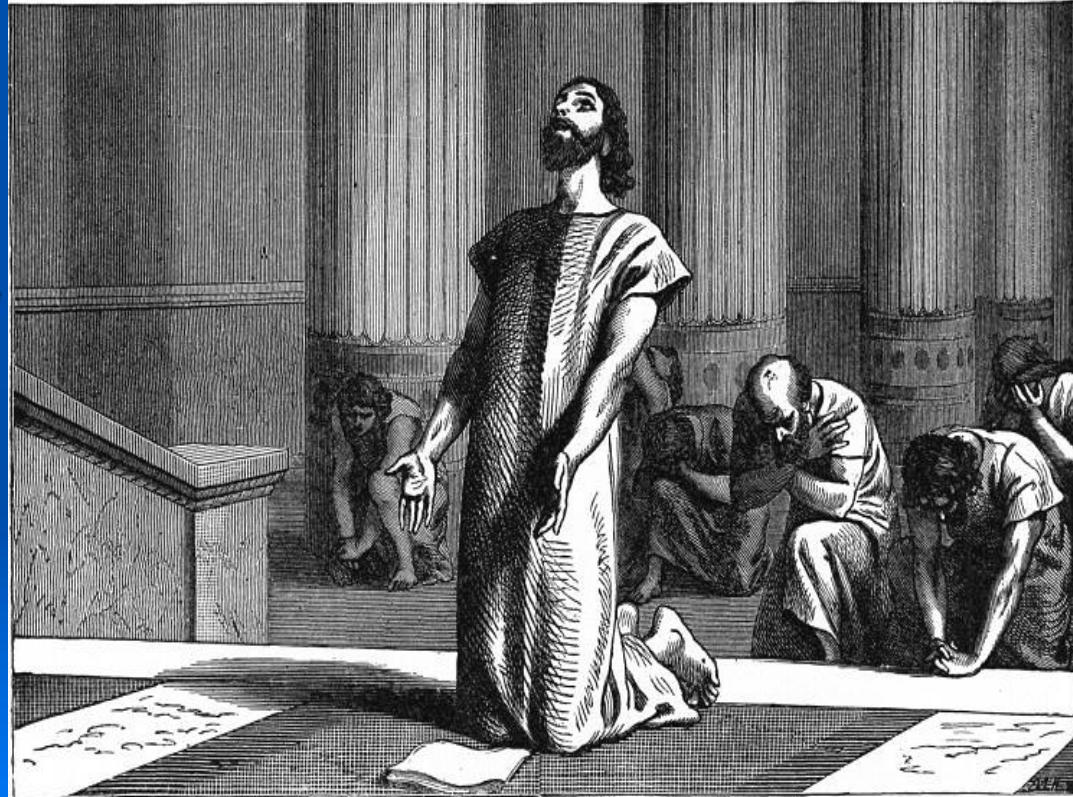
GOD IS NOT EVEN-HANDED !

- Hezekiah's delegation left with their clothing torn in grief
- Grief was on account of Rav-Shekeh blaspheming the Lord
- Lord shows favor to His chosen above those who are not
- *Elyakim, Shevnah,* and *Yo'ach* took their message of bad news to King *Hizkiyahu*



2ND KINGS 19: HEZEKIAH HUMBLING HIMSELF

- Hezekiah tore his clothes and put on sackcloth
- He responded the way we should all emulate
- He inquired of Isaiah, God's prophet, and then went to the Temple to pray



HEZEKIAH'S MESSAGE TO ISAIAH

- Message consisted of 4 parts:
- 1) This was a day of distress.
- 2) This was a day of rebuke.
- 3) This was a day of disgrace or sacrilege.
- 4) This was a day when Judah became as ***“children ready to be born, but there is no strength to bring them forth.....”***

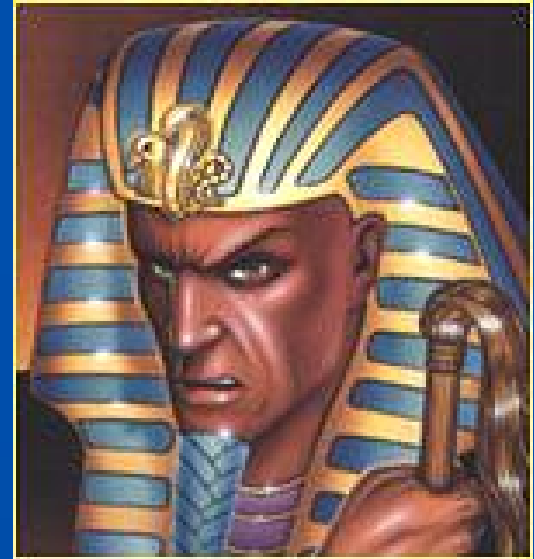
“ Do not fear..... ”



- ‘*al tira* = do not fear
- God is going to instill in Sennacherib a spirit (*ruach*) that will cause him to want to leave Judah
- Spirit does NOT mean a spiritual being, it means an unction, an overwhelming thought
- Sennacherib receives word at Livnah that the King of Egypt was leading his army to attack the Assyrian forces

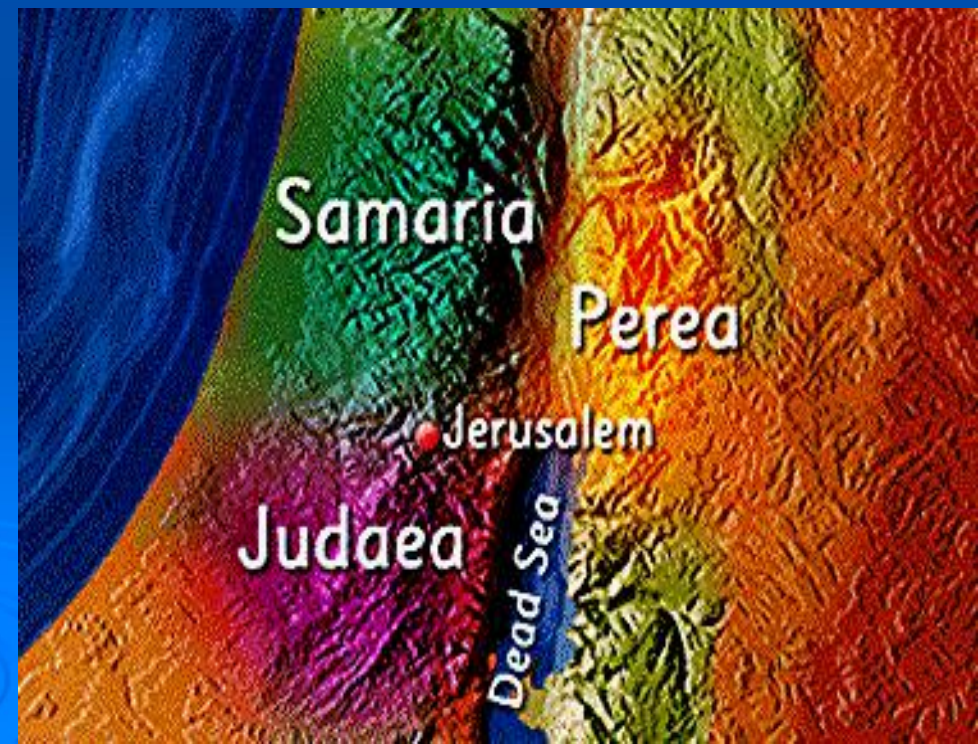
BLASHEMING GOD BRINGS CONFUSION AND CHAOS

- Sennacherib behaves as did the Pharaoh of the exodus
- Vss. 9-13 Sennacherib repeats his blasphemy
- Upon hearing of Tirhakah coming to attack Assyria's forces, Sennacherib again puts his demands on Judah
- Why does the modern world behave so irrationally?



EZEKIEL 38

- Ezekiel 38 sounds exactly like 2nd Kings 18 and 19
- However battle of Gog and Magog occurs ONLY after the return of Israel and Judah to their land
- Samaria = Israel, northern kingdom
- King of Magog has an irresistible but irrational thought to attack Israel
- As would happen with Sennacherib, it leads to Gog's destruction



ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR BLASPHEMY REST ON SENNACHERIB



- All the confusion and irrationality we see is the playing out of God's patterns
- Believers are the ONLY ones capable of discerning what is happening
- Hezekiah took the letter and laid it before the Lord
- This time the message was written from Sennacherib, so he would be held personally accountable by God