

2 Chronicles 32:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:

Analysis

Facing Assyrian invasion, Hezekiah exhorts Judah: 'Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him.' This echoes Jehoshaphat (20:15) and anticipates Elisha's prayer (2 Kings 6:16). The paradox - Assyria's visible army vastly outnumbered Judah, yet 'more with us' - reveals faith seeing invisible spiritual realities. Hezekiah clarifies (32:8) that Assyria has only 'an arm of flesh' while Judah has 'the LORD our God... to fight our battles.' This demonstrates that spiritual arithmetic defies human calculation. Christ's promise 'I am with you always' similarly assures that divine presence outweighs all opposition.

Historical Context

Sennacherib's invasion (701 BCE) threatened Jerusalem with Assyria's military machine that had conquered numerous nations. Hezekiah's faith in God's presence rather than military strategy resulted in miraculous deliverance (32:21-22) when the angel killed 185,000 Assyrians.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What overwhelming odds are you facing where you need faith to see 'more with us than with them'?
2. How does recognizing enemies as having only 'an arm of flesh' while you have the LORD change your perspective?

Interlinear Text

חֲזָק וּ	וְאַמֵּץ וּ	אֵל	תִּירָא וּ	וְאַל	תִּתַּח תוֹ	וּמִלְפָּנֵי י
Be strong	and courageous	H408	be not afraid	H408	nor dismayed	for
H2388	H553		H3372		H2865	H6440
מֶלֶךְ	אֲשֶׁר וּר	וּמִלְפָּנֵי י	כָּל	הָהֶמ וִן	אֲשֶׁר	עַמּוֹ וּ
the king	of Assyria	for	H3605	nor for all the multitude	H834	H5973
H4428	H804	H6440		H1995		
כִּי	עִמּוֹ נוֹ	כֵּן ב		מֵעַמּוֹ:		
H3588	H5973	that is with him for there be more		H5973		
		H7227				

Additional Cross-References

Romans 8:31 (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

2 Kings 6:16 (Parallel theme): And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

Ephesians 6:10 (Parallel theme): Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

1 John 4:4 (Parallel theme): 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 Chronicles 20:15 (Kingdom): And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not your's, but God's.

Isaiah 35:4 (Parallel theme): Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.

Zechariah 8:9 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, which were in the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built.

2 Kings 18:30 (Kingdom): 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.

1 Chronicles 28:20 (Parallel theme): And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

Zechariah 8:23 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.