

Isaiah 36:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Rabshakeh stood, and cried with a loud voice in the Jews' language, and said, Hear ye the words of the great king, the king of Assyria.

Analysis

Rabshakeh standing and crying "with a loud voice in the Jews' language" deliberately violates the officials' request, showing contempt for Judah's leaders. Speaking loudly in Hebrew ensures maximum dissemination of his message. His opening "Hear ye the words of the great king, the king of Assyria" parodies prophetic announcements ("Hear the word of the LORD"). This blasphemous appropriation of divine authority reveals satanic pride—the creature demanding worship due only the Creator.

Historical Context

Assyrian kings styled themselves with grandiose titles. Sennacherib's inscriptions call him "king of the world" and "king of the four quarters."

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How do earthly powers often ape divine authority and demand ultimate allegiance?
2. What does Rabshakeh's defiance of legitimate requests teach about dealing with prideful opponents?
3. How should believers respond when authorities explicitly violate reasonable boundaries?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּעֲמֹד	כַּבְּשֶׁקָה ה	וַיִּקְרָא	בְּקוֹל	הַגָּד וּל	יְהוּדִי יֵת
stood	Then Rabshakeh	and cried	voice	of the great	in the Jews' language
H5975	H7262	H7121	H6963	H1419	H3066
וַיֹּאמֶר	אֶת שְׁמָע ו	דְּבַר י	מֶלֶךְ	הַגָּד וּל	מֶלֶךְ אַשּׁוּר:
and said	Hear	ye the words	king	of the great	king of Assyria
H559	H8085	H1697	H4428	H1419	H4428 H804

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 32:18 (Parallel theme): Then they cried with a loud voice in the Jews' speech unto the people of Jerusalem that were on the wall, to affright them, and to trouble them; that they might take the city.