

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

יְעַמֵּד	בְּבָשָׂק	הַ	וְקָרָא	בְּקֹל	בְּקֹדֶד	וְלָ	יְהֹוָה	יְתָ
stood	Then Rabshakeh		and cried	voice	of the great	in the Jews' language		
H5975	H7262		H7121	H6963	H1419		H3066	

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.

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