

# Isaiah 36:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you, saying, The LORD will deliver us. Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

## Analysis

The warning "Beware lest Hezekiah persuade you" repeats the deception charge, while adding "The LORD will deliver us" as the supposedly false promise. Rabshakeh now explicitly attacks trust in YHWH, escalating from political to theological assault. The rhetorical question "Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered his land?" equates YHWH with impotent pagan deities. This blasphemy reveals the fundamental error—Rabshakeh cannot distinguish between the true God and false gods, judging YHWH by pagan standards.

## Historical Context

Assyria had conquered numerous nations whose gods proved powerless. From pagan perspective, all deities were equally ineffective against Assyrian might.

## Related Passages

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does the world judge God by worldly standards rather than recognizing His unique sovereignty?
2. What is the fundamental error in comparing YHWH to created false gods?
3. How do we maintain confidence in God's uniqueness when the world sees all religions as equivalent?

## Interlinear Text

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לְאַמְתָּה רְאֵת יְהָנֵן הַלְּבָדִים  
H6435 persuade H853 Beware lest Hezekiah you saying The LORD  
H5496 H2396 H559 H3068

אֶת אֶרְצֵךְ יְהָנֵן הַלְּבָדִים  
delivered delivered of the gods of the nations us Hath any H853 his land  
H5337 H5337 H430 H1471 H376 H776

מִן־דָּבָר אֶשְׁוֹר  
out of the hand of the king of Assyria  
H3027 H4428 H804

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 36:15** (Kingdom): Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, The LORD will surely deliver us: this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.