

Isaiah 36:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the king of Assyria sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to Jerusalem unto king Hezekiah with a great army. And he stood by the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field.

Analysis

Rabshakeh was the Assyrian field commander sent with a large army to Jerusalem. His position at the "conduit of the upper pool" was strategic—threatening Jerusalem's water supply demonstrated Assyria's power to besiege the city. This geographical detail emphasizes the real historical threat. The large army's presence was psychological warfare, meant to intimidate. This sets the stage for God's dramatic deliverance, showing that human military might means nothing when God defends His people.

Historical Context

This occurred in 701 BC during Hezekiah's 14th year. Sennacherib had already conquered 46 fortified Judean cities. Jerusalem appeared next on the list.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does God allow His people to face overwhelming threats to display His power?
2. What modern "armies" threaten to overwhelm believers today?
3. How should we respond when facing seemingly impossible opposition?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁלַח	הַמֶּלֶךְ	אֶשׁוּר	אֶת	רַב־שָׁקָה	מִלַּחֲשֵׁי	יְרוּשָׁלַם
sent	And the king	of Assyria	H853	Rabshakeh	from Lachish	to Jerusalem
H7971	H4428	H804		H7262	H3923	H3389
אֶל	הַמֶּלֶךְ	חִזְקִיָּהוּ	בְּיַד	כָּבֹד	וַיַּעַמֵּד	בְּתוֹעַלֹת
H413	And the king	Hezekiah	army	with a great	And he stood	by the conduit
	H4428	H2396	H2426	H3515	H5975	H8585
הַבְּרֶכָה	הַעֲלִיּוֹנָה	בְּמִסְלַח	שָׂדֵה	כֹּבֵס:		
pool	of the upper	in the highway	field	of the fuller's		
H1295	H5945	H4546	H7704	H3526		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 7:3 (Parallel theme): Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shear-jashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;