

Isaiah 36:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who are they among all the gods of these lands, that have delivered their land out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?

Analysis

The ultimate blasphemy: "Who are they among all the gods of these lands, that have delivered their land out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem?" This rhetorical question places YHWH in the same category as demonstrably powerless false gods. Rabshakeh's arrogance assumes Assyrian power supersedes all divine authority. This echoes Satan's primal rebellion—the creature exalting himself above the Creator. The question sets up God's dramatic intervention to demonstrate His incomparable power.

Historical Context

This speech represents the pinnacle of Assyrian hubris. Sennacherib's own annals boast of conquering lands "by the might of Ashur my lord," attributing success to Assyrian deities.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God respond when His name is blasphemed and His power challenged?
2. What does Assyrian arrogance teach about the self-destructive nature of pride?
3. How should we respond when God's reputation is attacked by mockers?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר בָּא לָה אֶרֶץ מִבְּכָל מַיִם
H4310 H3605 Who are they among all the gods of these lands H428 H834
H430 H776

וְיִצְא יְלֵא תְּאַת אֶרֶץ מִתְּמִימָן בְּפָנֶיךָ יִצְא יְלֵא
should deliver H853 of these lands out of my hand H3588 should deliver H5337
H5337 H776 H3027

מִתְּמִימָן יְרֻשָּׁלָם אֶת יְהוָה הָיְתָה
that the LORD H853 Jerusalem out of my hand H3027
H3068 H3389

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 32:19 (References God): And they spake against the God of Jerusalem, as against the gods of the people of the earth, which were the work of the hands of man.