

Isaiah 36:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Rabshakeh said unto them, Say ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great king, the king of Assyria, What confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

Analysis

The Rabshakeh's taunt reveals the spiritual warfare dimension behind political crises. His rhetorical question 'What confidence is this?' attacks the very foundation of faith - trusting God despite circumstances. This mirrors Satan's temptation strategy, questioning God's Word and provision. Hezekiah's silence models godly wisdom in not defending oneself before mockers.

Historical Context

Assyrian propaganda was sophisticated psychological warfare designed to demoralize defenders before battle. The Rabshakeh's use of Hebrew (v. 11) intentionally targeted common soldiers, attempting to circumvent leadership.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when your faith is publicly challenged or mocked?

2. What is the difference between defending your faith wisely and being drawn into fruitless arguments?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר	אֵלֵיהֶם	רַב־שָׁקֵה	אָמַר	וְאֵל	חִזְקִיָּהוּ	
Thus saith	H413	And Rabshakeh	Thus saith	H4994	H413	ye now to Hezekiah
H559		H7262	H559			H2396
כֹּה	אָמַר	מֶלֶךְ	הַגָּדוֹל	מֶלֶךְ	אֲשֶׁר	הַבִּטָּח וְ
H3541	Thus saith	king	the great	king	of Assyria	H4100
	H559	H4428	H1419	H4428	H804	H986
הֲזֵה	אֲשֶׁר	בְּטַחָתִּי:				
H2088	H834	is this wherein thou trustest				
		H982				

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