

# Isaiah 37:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests covered with sackcloth, unto Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz.

## Analysis

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Hezekiah sending officials "covered with sackcloth" to Isaiah demonstrates proper spiritual priorities in crisis—seeking prophetic counsel before political solutions. Sackcloth symbolized mourning, repentance, and humility before God. The king includes both civil officials (Eliakim, Shebna) and priests, showing unity between governmental and religious leadership. Consulting Isaiah acknowledges that this is fundamentally a spiritual crisis requiring divine intervention, not merely a political problem needing diplomatic solutions.

## Historical Context

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Isaiah was recognized as YHWH's authentic prophet with access to divine counsel. Seeking prophetic guidance before battle was common in Israel (1 Kings 22:5-8).

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How do we prioritize seeking God's word in crisis rather than immediately pursuing human solutions?
2. What does Hezekiah's humility teach about leadership during overwhelming challenges?
3. When facing difficulties, do we consult God's word and His servants first or last?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּשְׁלַח	אֶת	אֶלְיָקִים	אֲשֶׁר	עַל	הַבַּיִת	וְאֵת
And he sent	H853	Eliakim	H834	H5921	who was over the household	H853
H7971		H471			H1004	
וְשִׁבְנָא	הַסּוֹפֵר	וְאֵת	זִקְנֵי	הַכֹּהֲנִים	מִתְכַּסֵּים	
and Shebna	the scribe	H853	and the elders	of the priests	covered	
H7644	H5608		H2205	H3548	H3680	
בְּשָׂקִים	אֶל	יִשְׁעָי	בֶּן	אִמּוֹז	הַנָּבִיא	
with sackcloth	H413	unto Isaiah	the son	of Amoz	the prophet	
H8242		H3470	H1121	H531	H5030	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 1:1** (Parallel theme): The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.