

# Isaiah 37:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It may be the LORD thy God will hear the words of Rabshakeh, whom the king of Assyria his master hath sent to reproach the living God, and will reprove the words which the LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the remnant that is left.

## Analysis

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Hezekiah's request "lift up thy prayer for the remnant that is left" demonstrates humility—the king asks the prophet to intercede rather than relying solely on his own prayers. The hope that "the LORD thy God will hear the words of Rabshakeh" and "reprove" him shows faith that God has heard the blasphemy and will vindicate His name. The "remnant" concept is crucial—God preserves a faithful few through judgment. Hezekiah identifies Judah as this remnant, trusting God's covenant promises to preserve His people.

## Historical Context

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After Sennacherib conquered 46 fortified cities in Judah, only Jerusalem and a few cities remained—literally a remnant. This desperate situation sets up God's dramatic rescue.

## Related Passages

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does the remnant concept encourage believers during times when faith seems rare?
2. What does Hezekiah's request for intercession teach about corporate prayer?
3. How does God vindicate His name when it has been blasphemed?

## Interlinear Text

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בְּדַבָּר יִם אֵת תוֹ אֱלֹהֵי יְהוָה שָׁמַע אֲוִלִּי  
H194 **hath heard** H8085 **It may be the LORD** H3068 **God** H430 H853 **the words** H1697

אֲדֹנָיו אֲשֶׁר וּרְן מֶלֶךְ שָׁלַח וְאִשְׁרָבְשָׁק הַ  
H834 **hath sent** H7971 **whom the king** H4428 **of Assyria** H804 **his master** H113  
H2762 **of Rabshakeh**

אֲשֶׁר בְּדַבָּר יִם וְהוֹכִי אֱלֹהֵי הַחַיִּים  
H834 **the words** H1697 **and will reprove** H3198 **the living** H2416 **God** H430 **to reproach** H2778

בָּעַד תַּפִּלָּה וְנִשָּׂא אֶת־ אֱלֹהֵי יְהוָה שָׁמַע עַ  
H1157 **thy prayer** H8605 **wherefore lift up** H5375 **God** H430 **It may be the LORD** H3068 **hath heard** H8085

הַנִּמְצָאָה: הַשְּׂאֵרִית  
H4672 **that is left** H7611 **for the remnant**

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 36:20** (References God): 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?

**Isaiah 1:9** (References Lord): Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

**Isaiah 10:22** (Parallel theme): For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness.

**Psalms 106:23** (Parallel theme): Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.