



**Building Fathers House**  
A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

Sharing

**Elijah Prayer Discipleship School**

Becoming an instrument of prayer

[www.buildingfathershouse.org](http://www.buildingfathershouse.org)

*(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission to the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)*

## **Workshop no. 27 : “Instrument of prayer” - Do what is right in the sight of the Lord.**

*2 Kings 18:3-4 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did. He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.*

*2 Kings 18:6 For he clave to the LORD, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.*

**Purpose of this workshop:** To consider what is right in the sight of God.

**Intended Goal:** To encourage the believer to do what is right, walking in obedience to God as we trust in Him in the knowledge of who He is!

### **Scripture readings :**

*2Ch 30:16 And they stood in their place after their manner, according to the law of Moses the man of God: the priests sprinkled the blood, which they received of the hand of the Levites. 2Ch 30:17 For there were many in the congregation that were not sanctified: therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passovers for every one that was not clean, to sanctify them unto the LORD. 2Ch 30:18 For a multitude of the people, even many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, The good LORD pardon every one. 2Ch 30:19 That prepareth his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though he be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary. 2Ch 30:20 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people. 2Ch 30:21 And the children of Israel that were present at Jerusalem kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great gladness: and the Levites and the priests praised the LORD day by day, singing with loud instruments unto the LORD.*

**2Ch 31:20** And thus did Hezekiah throughout all Judah, and wrought that which was good and right and truth before the LORD his God.**2Ch 31:21** And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.

**2Ch 32:7** Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:**2Ch 32:8** With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

**2Ch 32:18** Then they cried with a loud voice in the Jews' speech unto the people of Jerusalem that were on the wall, to affright them, and to trouble them; that they might take the city.**2Ch 32:19** 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.**2Ch 32:20** And for this cause Hezekiah the king, and the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz, prayed and cried to heaven.**2Ch 32:21** And the LORD sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of his own bowels slew him there with the sword.**2Ch 32:22** Thus the LORD saved Hezekiah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all other, and guided them on every side.

**Isa 37:1** And it came to pass, when king Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.**Isa 37:2** 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.**Isa 37:3** And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.**Isa 37:4** 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.**Isa 37:5** So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.**Isa 37:6** And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say unto your master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.**Isa 37:7** Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumour, and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.

**Isa 37:15** And Hezekiah prayed unto the LORD, saying,**Isa 37:16** O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.**Isa 37:17** Incline thine ear, O LORD, and hear; open thine eyes, O LORD, and see: and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent to reproach the living God.**Isa 37:18** Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations, and their countries,**Isa 37:19** And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.**Isa 37:20** Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD, even thou only.

## Food for thought :

*"And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD"*, the mentioned statement, is like a CV or credentials to confirm that although he was king of Juda, he was a faithful servant. But what did he do, to receive this accreditation.

One of the very first things Hezekiah did when becoming king was to reopen and repair the Temple. (v. 3)

Hezekiah assembled the Levites and made an impassioned speech about how Judah had been suffering because they turned away from the Lord. He announces that the Levites are to resume their rightful position as worship leaders. (v. 4-11)

Note that the priests and Levites needed to be consecrated before this task. They were probably caught somewhat unprepared to act as priests, after the lax period under Ahaz. As Christians, we must be attentive to always be on alert, ready to act in God's service at any time.

Hezekiah commanded the priests to resume sacrifices. (v. 20-24)

The priests stationed themselves about the temple, with the harps and other instruments as David had prescribed. (v. 25-26)

The sacrifices were given and everyone worshiped. (v. 27-31)

2 Chronicles 30:1-9

Hezekiah invited all of Israel and Judah to come to the temple and celebrate Passover. (v. 1)  
Note that the invitation was sent to all Judah and Israel! Israel as a kingdom doesn't exist anymore due to their capture by Assyria. The only connection for these Israelites is to Jerusalem.  
Passover would be a reminder to Israel that they can be released from slavery to a super-power, since Passover is the celebration of the release of the Israelites who were enslaved by the Egyptians. They celebrated Passover in the second month because they were not ready to celebrate it in the first month. (v. 2-4)

Note that Hezekiah implores the people to submit themselves to God and to repent (turn from) their sins. This is the same command that Jesus gives us.

Celebration of Passover

2 Chronicles 30:10-27

The couriers went from town to town in Israel, but were scorned. (v. 10)  
Some people from Asher, Manasseh, and Zebulun joined the people in Judah for the Passover. Compare with the parable of the sower in Mark 4:1-9. (v. 11-12)  
A large crowd gathered for the Passover. (v. 13)

The people removed the alters to foreign gods from Jerusalem and destroyed them. (v. 14)  
The priests and Levites slaughtered the Passover lamb and offered sacrifices. (v. 15-16)  
Note that the priests and Levites are ashamed in verse 15. This is because the congregation is more enthused than the priests! To their great credit, however, the priests and Levites were able to quickly adapt to the real expression of love for God, even if that expression was unconventional or ignorant. Contrast with the rigid inflexibility of the Pharisees in Jesus' time.  
Some of the people were not consecrated to sacrifice their lambs, so the priests and Levites slaughtered the lambs for them. (v. 17)  
Many of the people who came from Israel ate the Passover, even though they were not supposed to because they had not purified themselves. (v. 18)  
Hezekiah prayed that God pardon everyone who ate the Passover, even if they were unclean. God heard his prayers and healed the people. (v. 19-20)  
Everyone celebrated the Passover for seven days and were very excited. (v. 21-22)  
Everyone was so excited about celebrating the Passover, they decided to celebrate it again! (v. 23)  
This is a great, exciting revival! It had been more than 200 years since Jerusalem had seen such a celebration.  
Hezekiah's Religious Reforms

## 2 Chronicles 31:1-21

After the Passover celebration, the people went throughout Judah and destroyed the vestiges of idol worship. Then the Israelites went home. (v. 1)  
Hezekiah reinstated the priests to their duties as were assigned by David. (v. 2)  
Hezekiah reinstated the tithe so that the priests and Levites could fully devote themselves to the work of the Lord. The people eagerly complied. (v. 4-8)  
During the reign of the evil kings, the priests were not supported by the tithe system, as God had prescribed. Hezekiah is reinstating not only proper Temple worship, but also the proper organization that David had set up.  
The priests told Hezekiah that there was plenty to spare because the Lord is blessing the people. (v. 9-10)  
Hezekiah commanded that storerooms be built in the Temple to handle the overflow. (v. 11-13)  
Hezekiah sought God wholeheartedly and prospered. (v. 21)  
Hezekiah's life can be an inspiration for our own lives: 1) he remembered God's compassion, 2) he kept going despite ridicule, 3) he aggressively removed evil influences from his life, 4) he interceded for the people, asking for the Lord's pardon, 5) he was open to spontaneity in worship, and 6) he contributed generously to God's work.  
Assyria Invades Judah

## 2 Chronicles 32:1-8

Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, invaded Judah and attacked Jerusalem. (v. 1)  
Hezekiah responded by routing the water underground. This was a brilliant military move that allowed Jerusalem to have water, even during a long siege. (v. 2-3)  
Hezekiah also looked to repairing the city walls and building towers. (v. 4-5)  
Hezekiah encouraged the people to trust in God and the people were encouraged. (v. 6-8)  
Hezekiah did everything he could do and then trusted God for the outcome.  
Sennacherib Threatens Jerusalem

## 2 Chronicles 32:9-23

Sennacherib sent a threatening letter to the people in Jerusalem. (v. 9-15)

Hezekiah responded by praying. See 2 Kings 19:14-19 for Hezekiah's prayer. (v. 20)

The Lord sent an angel who annihilated all the fighters of Assyria. (v. 21)

Sennacherib withdrew to Assyria in disgrace. (v. 21)

Hezekiah's Sickness and Recovery

## 2 Chronicles 32:24-33

Hezekiah became ill and was about to die. He prayed to God, who gave him a miraculous sign. (v. 24)

Hezekiah's pride kept him from responding to the Lord properly, so the Lord's wrath fell on him and on Judah and Jerusalem. (v. 25)

Then Hezekiah repented and the Lord blessed the people. (v. 26)

Hezekiah was very rich and succeeded in everything that he did. (v. 27-30)

Hezekiah was buried in the tombs of where David's descendants are. (v. 33)

More information about Hezekiah, especially about his pride, can be found in 2 Kings 20.

Last update: July 6, 2003

© 2002-2003 Greg Cohoon

greg@cohoon.name

## True stories :

**2Ki 19:14** And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.**2Ki 19:15** And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.**2Ki 19:16** LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God.**2Ki 19:17** Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,**2Ki 19:18** And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.**2Ki 19:19** Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.**2Ki 19:20** Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, That which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib king of Assyria I have heard.

## **God's authority :**

## **Conclusion :**

I. We can learn the lesson of restoration.

- A. Under King Hezekiah's leadership, the temple worship was restored. 2 Chronicles 29:3-11, 29-30 (371-372)
- B. The observance of the Passover was restored. 2 Chronicles 30:1-3
- C. How did they know how to make these restorations? 2 Chronicles 30:16, they went to the word of God.
- D. How can we restore New Testament Christianity today? By going to the word of God.
  - 1. The seed is the word of God (Luke 8:11) and a seed produces after its kind.
  - 2. The seed of N.T. Christianity produces New Testament Christianity.
  - 3. We need to heed the warning in 2 Chronicles 29: 10-11. Don't be negligent, stand for truth. Restoration plea: "Back to the Bible." A "thus saith the Lord."

II. We can also learn that prayer can change things.

- A. Regarding the armies of Assyria.
  - 1. What King Hezekiah tried first. 2 Kings 18:13-16
  - 2. Hezekiah's Prayer and results. 2 Kings 19:14-19 (318); 2 Kings 19:35
- B. Regarding Hezekiah's sickness. 2 Kings 20:1-7
- C. Prayer can change people and situations. James 5:16-18 (894); Philippians 4:6-7 (869)

Conclusion: We have a responsibility to restore New Testament Christianity. We must have faith in our Heavenly Father as we pray to Him.

## **Questions to be answered :**

- 1. What is a servant of The Lord called to do?

2. God is love, and God is .....
3. What is the three stages of being called and explain each stage?
4. How many choices did God present unto us and what are they?
5. Explain God's planning process?