SILENCING THE RABSHAKEH - 7.21.12 Isaiah 37:1-4

Three Readers: (T/M) The Text Master, F/1 A lady named Vicky F/2 Her friend, Marsha

- **F/1-** Good morning. My name is ______ and today I will be reading the part of a woman with a lot of problems, a woman named Vicky.
- **F/2-** Good morning. My name is ______ and today I will be reading the part of her friend, a woman named Marsha.
- T/M- Good morning, my name is ______ and today I will be serving as your Textmaster.
- Our Living Word passage of the day is taken from Isaiah, chapter 37, verses 1-4. I know your bulletin says chapter 38, but that is a typo. We will be reading from chapter 37, verses 1-4...

And it came to pass. that when King Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his clothes and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord. 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. And they said unto him, "Thus saith Hezekiah, "This is the day of trouble..."

- **F/1-** Marsha, I tell you, I knew that Ken running for mayor would change life a bit, but this year has just been horrible! It seems everyone is mad at him.
- F/2- Well, Vicky, you knew that politics can be nasty. Is it worse than you thought?
- F/1- Oh yeah. I mean the police are frustrated, the firemen are threatening to go on strike, the city workers are hounding him every day for upgrades in their offices and more perks for their contracts... And that's just the city workers. It seems every business owner in the town is hounding Ken for more services and less taxes and there's just no end to it.
- **F/2-** And now I hear this rumor that the state government is going to cut back on support staff for building inspectors and things... Is that true?
- **F/1-** It's true, in fact it's worse than that. They are even cutting funding for teachers. I tell you, nothing seems to be working and Ken is trying so hard.

- T/M- ''Thus saith Hezekiah, 'This is the day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of blasphemy; for the children are come to birth, and there is not strength to bring them forth...'''
- **F/1-** Every night he comes home and he's just frazzled. We thought we could make a difference and it seems that everything that is done just makes somebody mad.
- F/2- What are you going to do? Isn't there anywhere you can turn for help?
- **F/1-** I just don't know. Our Congressman seems to be handcuffed and the Governor has his own headaches. It doesn't seem to be working for anyone in public service anymore.
- F/2- There's got to be somewhere that you can turn...
- T/M- ''It may be that 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 they God had heard: wherefore, lift up thy prayer for the remnant that is left.''

May each of us find practical meaning in this, His Word, today.