

Where is your trust?

In Isaiah ch 36-39 we hear how King Hezekiah had a real gauntlet to navigate through. This was the temptation to trust in man, rather than God when faced with intimidation and seduction.

King Hezekiah was considered a good King and he found favour with the Lord.

When the Assyrian army had taken over most of Judah and had reached Jerusalem, the Assyrian official Rabshakeh intimidated Jerusalem and King Hezekiah. He mocked and asked where Judah's trust lies, in the message from the Assyrian King.

2 Kings 18.20 gives an account of this - You say you have the counsel and the might for war - but you speak only empty words. On whom are you depending, that you rebel against me?

King Hezekiah is faithful and turns to God in prayer and adoration, seeing that God is greater than the gauntlet ahead of them.

2 Chronicles 32.7 shows King Hezekiah encouraging the people - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him.

Q. Do you fully put your trust in God, or are there other things in your life where your trust lies?

Q. Are there any areas of Gods word, that to do become empty words?

It is ok to sometimes have a wobble in faith, but is important to build on the rock that is Jesus Christ.

We later see in chapter 39 that King Hezekiah is approached by Babylon envoys, after Hezekiah's miraculous recovery. The seduction from Babylon, leads to the Kings pride getting the better of him and he acts on his own motives. He shows them all of the treasures and resources of Judah. He shows off his importance and riches and this later leads to the downfall of Judah once again and the King being made humble.

Like Hezekiah, it can be easier to put our trust in God in times of adversity, than times of prosperity. We have been tackling a real gauntlet in the current Covid-19 situation, where many of us have turned to God faithfully. What will happen when threat of Covid lifts? Will we seek God as much?

Q. What have you stopped in lockdown, that you don't want to start again?

Q. What have you started in lockdown, that you don't want to stop?

God has been deepening our faith, through idols of culture being exposed as fragile.

Let's prepare our hearts for when lockdown lifts - let's not stop relying on God over anything else.

Here we are in danger of seeking the created, rather than the creator, joy in the moment, rather than satisfaction in God.

In Matthew 6.33 Jesus said - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

In Matthew 22.37 Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment of Gods law is - Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind'.

Let's be a church that continues to put trust in Jesus, being devoted to him, to each other and doing good.

Q. Has this preach raised any other questions? Would you like to pray into them?