Holly Cross Lutheran Church

 South Daytona, Florida

 Kenneth Klingler’s Bible Class

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 Book of Isaiah

Isaiah was a prophet to Judah. His mission from God started in the year King Uzziah died, 740 BC King Uzziah was known as a good King. He was a good King until his vision of himself became too great. Uzziah had been powerfully influenced by the prophet Zechariah He reigned in Judah for 52 years during which time the people were militarily powerful with the best weapons that money could buy and were economically very strong. But, as we shall see, rot had started to settle in.

Just 35 miles away the Israelite capital of Samaria was about to fall to Sargon of Assyria in 723BC

Jerusalem itself would fall to the Babylonians in about 600BC, this means that God gave them 140 years to clean up their act before his punishment fell on them.

**The Assyria king Sennacherib ruled after his father Sargon in about 705 BC, which was the 23 year of the Judean king Hezekiah**

**Hezekiah was afraid of the might of Assyria after they had destroyed Samaria (10 Israeli tribes)**

**And now faced Judaea (2 Israeli tribes}. Hezekiah made a treaty with Eygyt against Sennacherib. Sennacherib entered Judea. Here is the account written by Sennacherib himself**

**Because Hezekiah, king of Judah, would not submit to my yoke, I came up against him, and by force of arms and by the might of my power I took forty-six of his strong fenced cities; and of the smaller towns which were scattered about, I took and plundered a countless number. From these places I took and carried off 200,156 persons, old and young, male and female, together with horses and mules, asses and camels, oxen and sheep, a countless multitude; and Hezekiah himself I shut up in Jerusalem, his capital city, like a bird in a cage, building towers round the city to hem him in, and raising banks of earth against the gates, so as to prevent escape...Then upon Hezekiah there fell the fear of the power of my arms, and he sent out to me the chiefs and the elders of Jerusalem with 30 talents of gold and 800 talents of silver, and divers treasures, a rich and immense booty...All these things were brought to me at Nineveh, the seat of my government."**

**After, Sennacherib Heard that Hezekiah was again negotiating with Egypt. So he returned to Judea with the plan of laying waste to everything in Judea to the Egyptian fortress on the Nile. He surrounded Hezekiah in Jerusalem again. He sent a threatening letter to Hezekiah but Hezekiah took the letter to the Temple and laid it before the Lord. That night God sent an angel. That one angel killed 185,000 Assyrians. Sennacherib left that night and returned to Nineveh where he remain until assassinated by his two sons.**