

ISAIAH 39

Hezekiah Shows the Babylonians Everything

1 At that time¹ Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. 2 And Hezekiah welcomed them gladly. And he showed them his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his whole armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them.

3 Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah and said to him,

What did these men say? And from where² did they come to you?

Hezekiah said,

They have come to me from a far country, from Babylon.³

4 He said,

What have they seen in your house?

Hezekiah answered,

They have seen all that is in my house. There is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them.⁴

Everything Will Be Carried to Babylon

5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah,

Hear the word of Yahweh of hosts: 6 Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says Yahweh. 7 And some of your own sons, who will come from you, whom you will father, shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs⁵ in the palace of the king of Babylon.

8 Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah,

¹ According to most commentators, chronologically, this chapter falls after Isaiah 37 and before Isaiah 38.

² The origin of the envoys is the key theological fact. They are from Babylon! See *Babylon*.

³ Hezekiah tries to play everything down.

⁴ Hezekiah gets credit for honesty.

⁵ Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were eunuchs in the palace of Nebuchadnezzar (Da 1:6-7).

The word of Yahweh that you have spoken is good.⁶

For he thought,

There will be peace (שָׁלוֹם) and truth/faithfulness (אֱמֻנָה) in my days.

⁶ Really?

Notes