Ring of Truth daily devotion

Ring of Truth provides 366 daily 'proofs' that the Bible is consistent throughout from Genesis to Revelation and relevant for our lives today!

31 March

2 Chronicles 32:7-8

"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 greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles."

Hezekiah was a great king.

He was not like his father, Ahaz, who was wicked. At 25, when he became king, he first set about clearing and cleaning the Temple and restoring the offices of the Priest and Levite. There was a lot of work to do, but they set about it quickly and took out all the rubbish and threw it into the Kidron Valley. Once he had restored the Temple and the priesthood, he decided to invite all the people living in Judah to return to the Lord and assemble at Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover Feast.

Many rejected the invitation but others came and celebrated before the Lord. They celebrated Passover for 7 days and then went on with a further 7 days of thank offerings and rejoicing. Not since David and Solomon's day had there been such joy and festivity (approximately 300 years).

Hezekiah was careful to follow the pattern of the Law and the instructions for worship set out by David and Asaph. Judah prospered, but as usual, others didn't like that. This time, King Sennacherib of Assyria came up to invade Judah. He came and laid siege to Jerusalem. Hezekiah built additional walls around Jerusalem in defence and armed the people with weapons and shields.

Hezekiah encouraged the people with the words of our verse for today. But Sennacherib mocked him and God, saying that as he had conquered all the other nations and their gods, what did they think the God of Judah could do to save them? He was about to find out.

Hezekiah and Isaiah prayed and an angel came and annihilated all the fighting men, leaders and officials in the camp. Sennacherib went home defeated and was murdered by his sons when he went to worship his god.

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled" (see Matthew 23:12).

It happened to Sennacherib and it happened to Hezekiah because he also became arrogant.

As I read our verses today, I could not help remembering what John wrote. John also knew his Scriptures. As he wrote to his friends about the enemy they faced, he said, ***"The One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world"*** (1 John 4:4). It's a 'Ring of Truth'!

It is equally true for us today. No matter the opposition or enemy you are facing right now, even if it seems as big as Sennacherib and his army - Our victory is secure, sure and certain, provided we remain totally dependent upon God and Him alone.