

OVERCOME
An Introduction to the life of King Hezekiah
II Kings 18:1-6

Decency can thrive amid debauchery!

I. OVERCOME BY EVIL: A Condition

A. HIS EXAMPLE: Ahaz his father (1)

- Note II Kings 16

1. Ahaz made his son pass through the fire (3)
2. Ahaz worshipped at pagan shrines (4)
3. Ahaz bought protection from Assyria with temple funds (8)
4. Ahaz had a pagan altar built and placed in the temple (10-14)
5. Ahaz corrupted others to sin in their sacrifices (15-16)
6. Ahaz pillaged the temple to pay off the Assyrian king (17-18)

B. HIS ENVIRONMENT (4)

1. Pagan idolatry and immorality
2. Jewish idolatry

II. OVERCOME THE EVIL: A Conquest

A. HIS RELATIONSHIPS (2-3)

1. A Great Mother - "Abi" (2)
- See Isaiah 8:2
2. A Good Model - David (3)
3. A Godly Mentor - Isaiah (Likely though not stated)
- See Isaiah 7:3-16

B. HIS REPUTATION (3)

1. Doing right in the sight of the Lord
2. Doing right among kings who were generally bad
3. Doing right within a culture of moral corruption

C. HIS REFORMS (4)

1. Removing Idolatry
 - a. He removed the raunchy shrines (4a)
 - b. He removed the “religious” serpent (4b)
2. Responding Immediately
 - He saw what needed to be done and did it immediately and decisively

D. HIS RESOLVE

- Hezekiah demonstrates a relationship with God and not merely a religion
1. He trusted in the Lord (5)
 - This is the state of his heart > A condition of conviction
 2. He clung to the Lord (6a)
 - A constant and undying closeness and communion with Him
 3. He did not depart from following Him (6b)
 - A constancy and perseverance in his duty
 4. He kept God’s commandments (6c)
 - He did not question or dispute; he kept them > full obedience
 5. He kept his focus on God

CONCLUSION:

Being overcome or being an over comer What makes the difference?

- Preparation!

- The firemen prepared to enter a burning building will overcome the smoke and not be overcome by it.

Hezekiah was prepared to overcome and therefore was not overcome.

- How will you and I fare?

I have set the LORD continually before me; Because He is at my right hand,
I will not be shaken. - Psalm 16:8