

The Object of Your Trust

2 Kings 18 & 19

Intro: Some thoughts about trust:

From Tuesday's newspaper.

From Charles Blondin on a tightrope (the overlap with *faith*).

- I. King Hezekiah's trust described (2 Kings 18:1-8): Heb. *baw-tach*
 - a. "Hezekiah trusted in the LORD," (2 Kings 18:5)
 - b. "He held fast to the LORD," (2 Kings 18:6)
 - c. "He kept the commands [of] the LORD," (2 Kings 18:6)

- II. King Hezekiah's trust falters (2 Kings 18:9-16)
 - a. Israel, in the north, is conquered and deported
 - b. Judah's cities (Hezekiah's kingdom) are captured
 - c. Hezekiah gives in to the king of Assyria

- III. The king of Assyria doubles down on Hezekiah and Judah
 - a. "What is this *trust* you are *trusting*?" (2 Kings 18:19)
 - b. "Can you really *trust* Egypt? Can you *trust* the LORD?"
 - c. "The LORD himself told *me* to attack *you*."

- IV. King Hezekiah responds in fearful trust (2 Kings 19:1-4)
 - a. He grieves and repents
 - b. He goes to church (temple) and God's Word (prophet)
 - c. He finally returns to the LORD in prayer (2 Kings 19:15)

Close: The LORD heard their prayers and saved them from Assyria.

But later Babylon would take Judah into exile for their sins.

What challenges to trusting in the LORD are you facing today?

The devil, the world, even our own sinful thoughts relentlessly challenge our trust in the LORD.

We need not be discouraged, however, but take it to the LORD in prayer.