

SPREAD IT OUT

AFTER HEZEKIAH RECEIVED THE LETTER FROM THE MESSENGERS AND READ IT, HE WENT UP TO THE LORD'S TEMPLE AND SPREAD IT OUT BEFORE THE LORD. AND HEZEKIAH PRAYED THIS PRAYER BEFORE THE LORD: "O LORD, GOD OF ISRAEL, YOU ARE ENTHRONED BETWEEN THE CHERUBIM! YOU ALONE ARE GOD OF ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE EARTH. YOU ALONE CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH. 2 KINGS 19:14-15

HEZEKIAH HAD RECEIVED A DEVASTATINGLY THREATENING LETTER FROM THE ASSYRIANS. THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM AND JUDAH WAS IMMINENT AND ISRAEL HAD ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED. HEZEKIAH'S KINGDOM SEEMED TO BE TEE-TERING ON THE EDGE OF THE ABYSS.

WHEN HEZEKIAH RECEIVED THIS LETTER, HE DID SOMETHING VERY INTERESTING, HE WENT TO THE TEMPLE AND SPREAD OUT THE PAGES BEFORE THE LORD. HE THEN BEGAN TO PRAY. IN HIS PRAYER, HE SPOKE OF THE HOLINESS, SOVEREIGNTY, AND MIGHT OF THE LORD. LATER IN VERSE 20, THE LORD RESPONDS TO HIS PRAYER AND A GREAT DELIVERANCE OCCURS.

MAYBE YOU HAVE BILLS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW YOU ARE GOING TO PAY. MAYBE YOU HAVE RECEIVED A REJECTION LETTER OR A LAY-OFF NOTICE. MAYBE YOU HAVE RECEIVED DIVORCE PAPERS. WHY NOT GO TO A PLACE OF PRAYER AND SPREAD OUT THE PAGES BEFORE THE LORD? LAY OUT YOUR TROUBLES AND YOUR STRUGGLES BEFORE HIM AND THEN BEGIN TO MAGNIFY WHO HE IS.

JUST AS THE LORD HEARD HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER, I KNOW HE WILL HEAR OURS AS WELL.

Father, thank You for caring about the details of our lives. As we spread out before you what concerns us, Hear our prayers and show Yourself strong on our behalf.

- **BEFORE WE WAVE OUR DESPERATE REQUESTS BEFORE THE LORD, TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON GOD'S CHARACTER.**
- **THANK HIM FOR WHO HE IS, THANK HIM FOR HOW YOU'VE SEEN AND EXPERIENCED HIS POWER AND PRESENCE IN THE PAST, AND NOTICE YOUR FAITH RISING.**
- **THEN PRAY, EXPECT, AND WAIT ON GOD WITH GREAT CONFIDENCE.**