

## Hezekiah choral reading

CHARACTERS: Isaiah & Hezekiah (lead voices), chorus

RUN TIME: 4 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: (I) 2 Chronicles 29-32, (II) 2 Kings 18-21, Isaiah 36-38

### I

ISAIAH: When Hezekiah became king, Judah was in dire straights

HEZEKIAH: Our fathers were unfaithful and did what is evil in the sight of the LORD our God.

ALL: They turned their backs on Him.

HEZEKIAH: It is in my heart now to make a covenant with Yahweh, the God of Israel

CHORUS A: Israelites, return to Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel

CHORUS B: Don't become obstinate

ALL: Serve the LORD your God for Yahweh your God is gracious and merciful

HEZEKIAH: He will not turn His face away from you if you return to Him.

ALL: The power of God was at work to unite them

CHORUS B: God heard their voice

A: and their prayer came into His holy dwelling place in heaven.

HEZEKIAH: Be strong and courageous!

ISAIAH: Don't be afraid or discouraged

HEZEKIAH: for there are more with us than with the enemy

ISAIAH: He has only human strength

HEZEKIAH: but we have Yahweh our God to help us and to fight our battles.

CHORUS: So the people relied on the words of King Hezekiah of Judah.

### II

ISAIAH: Hezekiah trusted in the LORD God of Israel

A: not one of the kings of Judah was like him,

B: either before him or after him.

ISAIAH: He remained faithful to Yahweh

B: and did not turn from following Him

A: but kept the commands the LORD had commanded Moses.

ALL: The LORD was with him

ISAIAH: When the King of Assyria threatened, King Hezekiah prayed before the LORD

HEZEKIAH: LORD God of Israel who is enthroned above the cherubim,

ALL: You are God—You alone—

HEZEKIAH: of all the kingdoms of the earth.

ALL: You made the heavens and the earth.

HEZEKIAH: Listen closely, LORD, and hear

ALL: open Your eyes, LORD, and see.

HEZEKIAH: LORD our God, please save us from his hand

ISAIAH: so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD God

ALL: —You alone.

VOG: Have you not heard? I designed it long ago

ALL: God planned it in days gone by.

VOG: I have now brought it to pass. I know your sitting down, your going out

ALL: and our coming in

VOG: I will defend this city and rescue it for My sake

ALL: The zeal of the LORD of Hosts will accomplish this.

ISAIAH: When Hezekiah was sick, he prayed

HEZEKIAH: Please LORD, remember how I have walked before You faithfully and wholeheartedly and have done what pleases You.

VOG: I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Look, I will heal you.