

"But still there lurked in his heart a desire of vain ostentation. . . . This is a remarkable example, and it teaches us that nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity. . . . For when everything goes on to our wish, we grow wanton and insolent and cannot be kept in the path of by any advices or threatenings."
 - Calvin, *Isaiah*, p. 184

God on Pride

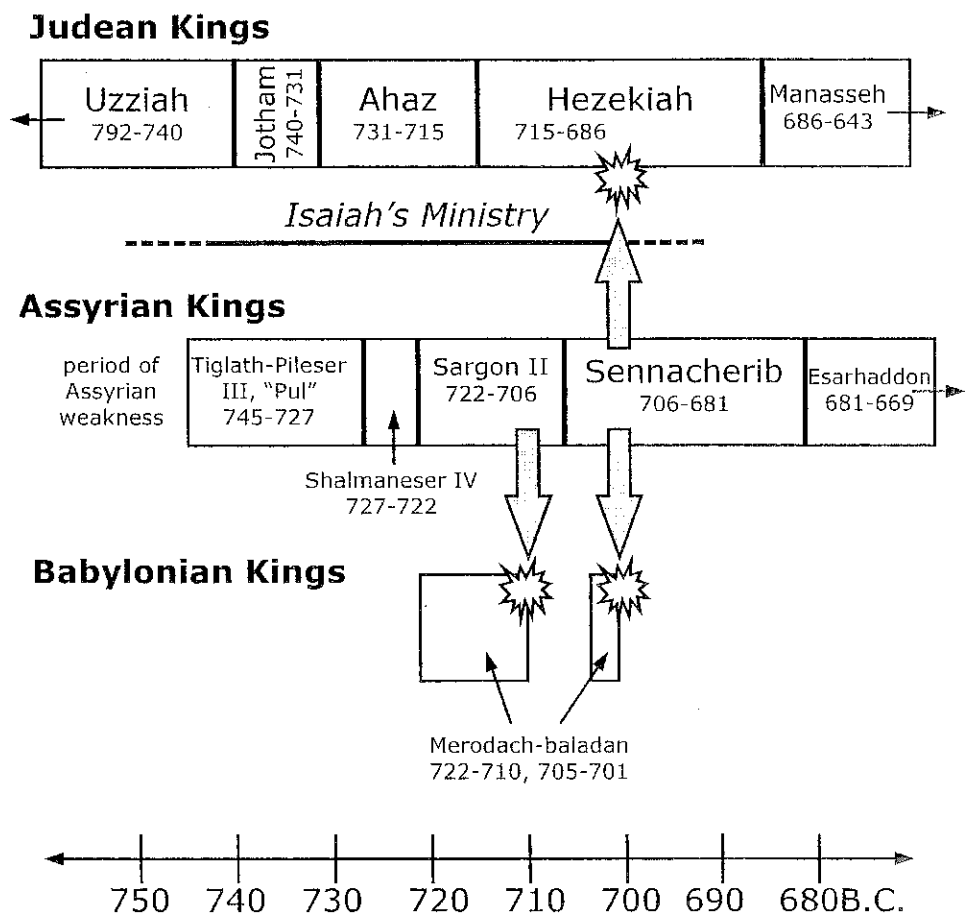
He mocks proud mockers, but gives grace to the humble.
 Proverbs 3:34

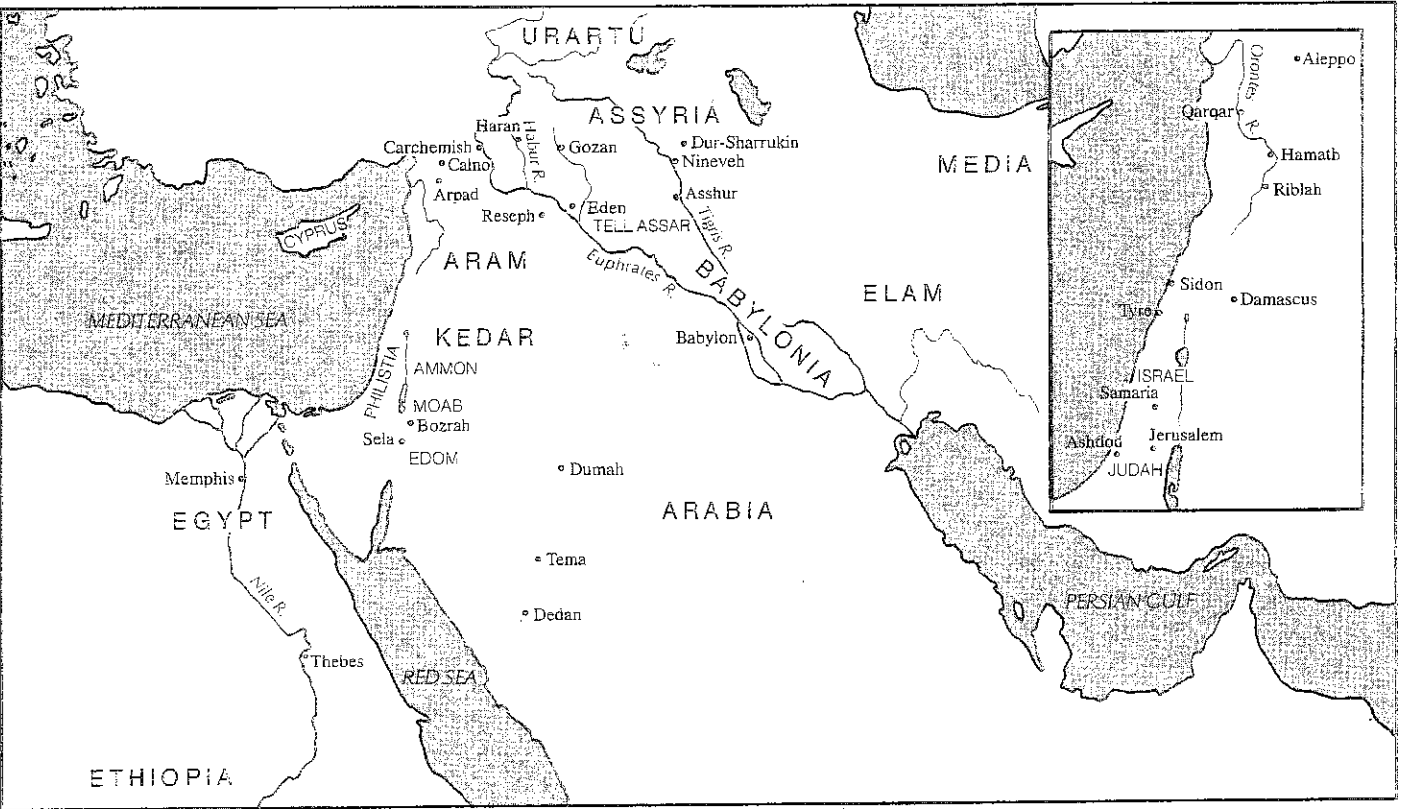
Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.
 Proverbs 16:18

For this is what the high and lofty One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit."
 Isaiah 57:15

But he gives mores grace. That is why the Scripture says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves then to God. . . . Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will lift you up.
 James 5:6,10

Isaiah





Map taken from Oswalt's *The Book of Isaiah Chapters 1-39*

Hezekiah's success

The LORD was with him. He was successful in whatever he undertook. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. From watchtower to fortified city, he defeated the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory. 2 Kings 18:7-8

Many brought offerings to Jerusalem for the LORD and valuable gifts for Hezekiah king of Judah. From then on he was highly regarded by all the nations. . . . Hezekiah had very great riches and honor and he made treasuries for his silver and gold and for his precious stones, spices, shields and all kinds of valuables. He also made buildings to store the harvest of grain, new wine and oil; and he made stalls for various kinds of cattle, and pens for the flocks. He built villages and acquired great numbers of flocks and herds, for God had given him very great riches. 2 Chronicles 32:23,27-29

"Here was a ready-made opportunity for Hezekiah to glorify God before the pagan Babylonians, to tell of his greatness and his grace. Instead he succumbed to the temptation to glorify himself and to prove to the Chaldeans that he was a worthy partner for any sort of coalition they might have in mind." Oswalt, *Isaiah*, vol. 1, p. 695

"In revealing all his treasures to the Babylonians, Hezekiah had manifested an amount of vanity and pride. He seems to have forgotten the promises of God and was willing to join with a human power to throw over the yoke of Assyria."

Young, *Isaiah*, vol. 2, p. 534