

Adam Martin

*He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, **2 Kings 18:3 (NIV)***

*There was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, either before him or after him.
2 Kings 18:5 (NIV)*

THE BENEFITS OF BEING SURROUNDED BY CHALLENGES

1. BEING SURROUNDED BY CHALLENGES REVEALS WHO I AM.

Surely, what a man does when he is taken off guard is the best evidence for what sort of man he is.
Surely, what pops out before the man has time to put on a disguise reveals what is true about him. (CS Lewis)

*When king Hezekiah heard this... he went into the temple of the Lord. **2 Kings 19:1 (NIV)***

*Then he went up to the temple of the Lord... **2 Kings 19:14 (NIV)***

*Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord... **2 Kings 20:2 (NIV)***

2. BEING SURROUNDED BY CHALLENGES REVEALS WHO GOD IS.

*Do not let Hezekiah deceive you - He cannot be delivered from my hand.
Do not let Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the Lord when he says,
The Lord will certainly deliver us... **2 Kings 18:29-30 (NIV)***

*Do not let the God you depend on deceive you when He says,
Jerusalem will not be given into the hands of the king of Assyria.
Surely you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all the countries,
destroying them completely. And you will be delivered?
Did the gods of the nations that were destroyed deliver them? **2 Kings 19:10-12a (NIV)***

*That night, the angel of the Lord went up and put to death 185,000 in the Assyrian camp.
When the people got up the next morning - there were all the dead bodies!
So Sennacherib broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there.
2 Kings 19:35-36 (NIV)*

*You alone are God of all the kingdoms of the earth.
You have made heaven and earth.
Give ear, Lord, and hear;
Open your eyes, Lord, and see;
Listen to the words Sennacherib has sent to ridicule the living God. **2 Kings 19:15-16 (NIV)***

*I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. **2 Kings 20:5 (NIV)***

3. BEING SURROUNDED BY CHALLENGES REVEALS WHO I WAS MEANT TO BE.

*In the first month of the first year of Hezekiah's reign,
He opened the doors of the temple of the Lord and repaired them.
He brought in the priests.... **2 Chronicles 29:3-4a (NIV)***

*Early the next morning king Hezekiah gathered the city officials together and went up to the Lord. **2 Chronicles 29:20 (NIV)***

*Hezekiah sent word to all Israel and Judah and also wrote letters to Ephraim and Manasseh, inviting them to come to the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem
2 Chronicles 30:1 (NIV)*

*In building the temple, only blocks dressed at the quarry were used,
And no hammer, chisel or any other iron tool was heard at the temple site while it was being built. **1 Kings 6:7 (NIV)***

*For this God is our God for ever and ever;
He will be our guide even to the end. **Psalms 48:14 (NIV)***