

of the Assyrian empire even with these natural resources would certainly be far beyond the little kingdom of Judah. The two would compare about like the strength of Paraguay compared to the strength of the United States. There would, of course, be this difference that for us to attack Paraguay would be comparatively easy with modern methods of transportation, but in those days transportation was a much greater problem ~~than~~ than it is today and the distance for their methods of transportation was not very good. But the comparison in size of those two was ^{such that} humanly speaking absolutely ~~was~~ there was no question how an attack by Assyria against Jerusalem would come out. Assyria had conquered many other nations other than Judah far greater including Syria and Israel, and ~~they had~~ Sennacharib himself had conquered many cities greater than Jerusalem. So there would seem to be no reason to expect that he would not be able to take Jerusalem if he wanted to do so. However, naturally Sennacharib would weigh the ~~inexpensive~~ expense involved. ~~It would be a question just~~ He would know that it would be an expensive matter to take this city. The city was so superbly positioned for this defense. Under those circumstances if he could by-pass Jerusalem he would consider it and if he could get Jerusalem to voluntarily surrender and save him the ~~losses~~ losses and the expense and bother of conquering it, that would be worthwhile. So Sennacharib sent his servant up to Jerusalem and he told the people of Jerusalem that they were very foolish to ~~trust~~ trust in Hezekiah or to trust in their God. He told them that there was absolutely nothing they could do that would protect themselves against him. The account of these events is contained in *2nd of 98.*

The representatives of

King Sennacharib met with the representatives of King Hezekiah. It is described specifically in chapter 36:2, "he stood by the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field." How that must have impressed the people as they