

(Question) No, that was in an entirely different place. The nature of that was somewhat uncertain but that would be straight up while this one would be horizontal. It is a different sort of a thing.

(Question) This same tunnel? I don't believe so. I think it is entirely different. The Jebusite city was part of the present Jerusalem but only a part of it. Part of it is outside of the present Jerusalem. I don't think that they are at all related. They are two entirely distinct things. I only mention it because of the similarity of them. Of course, that was hundreds of years before this.

Now this is done in order to ~~protect~~ make it easier to ~~deliver~~ protect themselves from Sennacharib. There was, of course, humanly speaking little hope of protecting themselves against Sennacharib. Sennacharib was the king of a much greater power than they were. He was the emperor of the Assyrian empire which had conquered many nations several times as strong as Judah. Now as a result of Ahaz' foolish act which gave him a temporary security the Assyrian empire was brought right next to Judah and as Isaiah had predicted the result of it was that now Sennacharib is overrunning⁽¹⁾ the land of Judah. He takes all the fenced cities except Jerusalem. He takes Lachish, the second great city, and having taken these cities, it is natural to expect that he would be able to come up and to conquer Jerusalem. That is not an extremely easy task because Jerusalem is unusually well situated for defense, particularly in those days. It is on a high hill with a hill on three sides so there is only one side on which there are not strong natural resources to protect the city. Then in addition to that hill they had a wall on the cleft of the hill all along and the city is one which has always been unusually difficult to capture. Now under those circumstances if the two forces had been equal, you might hope to protect the city, but the force