

Sunday Sidebar – March 31, 2019

Hezekiah's Tunnel:

Hezekiah was king of the southern kingdom of Judah, from 715 - 686 BC. He was a good and godly king, leading during a very turbulent time in Judah's history. His father, Ahaz, had appealed to the Assyrian king Tiglath-pileser III for help, and Judah had become a vassal of Assyria. The Northern Kingdom of Israel had outright rebelled and been conquered by the Assyrians in 722 BC. So Hezekiah worked hard to build an anti-Assyrian coalition with support from Egypt and he also needed to protect Jerusalem's water supply against inevitable attacks. The Siloam Tunnel was carved through 1,777 feet of solid rock for the purpose of bringing water from the Gihon Spring outside Jerusalem to a pool inside the city wall. [This pool of Siloam was where Jesus sent the blind man to wash off the mud in today's Scripture.] On the wall of the tunnel still today, one can see an inscription describing how the workers started at both ends and somehow, met in the middle, after following a winding route. The tunnel was completed before the Assyrian king Sennacherib came and besieged Jerusalem in 701 BC. By God's grace, Hezekiah and Jerusalem withstood that siege...

We are following ministry of Jesus this season, examining the Landscapes of Lent.