~TIRHAKAH (47) (Tir-ha'kah)

- Usually identified as Pharaoh Taharqa, although the dates generally assigned by modern historians to Taharqas rule do not fit Biblical chronology.
- For evidence favoring Biblical chronology over the secular, During Hezekiah's reign, while Assyrian King Sennacherib was fighting against Libnah, news came that Tirhakah, the Ethiopian king of Egypt, was on his way to fight the Assyrians.
- After that Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he had heard that he had pulled away from Lachish. (2 Kings 19:8)
- He heard it said respecting Tirhakah the king of Ethiopia; Here he has come out to fight against you. Therefore he sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying; (2 Kings 19:9)
- After that Rabshakeh returned and found the king of Assyria fighting against Libnah, for he had heard that he had pulled away from Lachish. (Isaiah 37:8)
- Now he heard it said concerning Tirhakah the king of Ethiopia; He has come out to fight against you. When he heard, he at once sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying; (Isaiah 37:9)
- An Assyrian inscription, though not mentioning Tirhakah, indicates that Sennacherib defeated the forces that came from Egypt and captured the charioteers of the king of Ethiopia.
- The next Assyrian king, Esar-haddon, boasted about his conquest of Egypt, saying; Its king, Tirhakah, I wounded five times with arrowshots and ruled over his entire country.
- During the reign of Esar-haddons son and successor Ashurbanipal, Tirhakah revolted against submission to Assyria. But, according to Ashurbanipal, the terror of the, sacred, weapon of Ashur, my lord, overcame Tirhakah where he had taken refuge and he was never heard of again. [Ancient Near Eastern Texts, edited by J. Pritchard, 1974, pp. 287,288,290,295]

See Also CHRONOLOGY (Bible Chronology and Secular History)