

A NAIL REMOVED

¹⁵ *This is what the Lord, the LORD Almighty, says: "Go, say to this steward, to Shebna the palace administrator: ¹⁶ "What are you doing here and who gave you permission to cut out a grave for yourself here, hewing your grave on the height and chiseling your resting place in the rock? ¹⁷ "Beware, the LORD is about to take firm hold of you and hurl you away, you mighty man. ¹⁸ He will roll you up tightly like a ball and throw you into a large country. There you will die and there the chariots you were so proud of will become a disgrace to your master's house. ¹⁹ I will depose you from your office, and you will be ousted from your position. ²⁰ "In that day I will summon my servant, Eliakim son of Hilkiah. ²¹ I will clothe him with your robe and fasten your sash around him and hand your authority over to him. He will be a father to those who live in Jerusalem and to the people of Judah. ²² I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. ²³ I will drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a seat of honor for the house of his father. ²⁴ All the glory of his family will hang on him: its offspring and offshoots--all its lesser vessels, from the bowls to all the jars. ²⁵ "In that day," declares the LORD Almighty, "the peg driven into the firm place will give way; it will be sheared off and will fall, and the load hanging on it will be cut down." The LORD has spoken.*

Isaiah 22:15-25

¹⁰ *If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success.*

Ecclesiastes 10:10