

## Isaiah 38

King James Version (KJV)

**38** In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. (Possibly he was judged for his idolatry and his lack of faith in God. God is telling him to prepare for his death)

<sup>2</sup>Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, (He prays to God, now that he is in trouble. Better late than never. God is merciful and will hear Hezekiah)

<sup>3</sup>And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. (Hezekiah didn't walk in truth and with a perfect heart. He brought in false religion and was a sorry leader to Judah. He sounds like he was a weak man, with a weak character)

(But if he truly repents, the Lord will forgive him and give him another chance to make good)

<sup>4</sup>Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying,

<sup>5</sup>Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years. (God gave him a second chance. He'd better get it right this time)

<sup>6</sup>And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city. (God will defend the city; not Hezekiah. He has 15 years in order to get his physical and spiritual life in order)

<sup>7</sup>And this shall be a sign unto thee from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he hath spoken; (More than that, God will give him a sign to prove that He is God; and that His Word is true)

<sup>8</sup>Behold, I will bring again the shadow of the degrees, which is gone down in the sun dial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward. So the sun returned ten degrees, by which degrees it was gone down. (God will change the time on planet earth. No man can do that. Only Almighty God can add time or remove time from the day)

<sup>9</sup>The writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, when he had been sick, and was recovered of his sickness: [See 2Kings-20:1-11](#)

(Hezekiah' writings)

<sup>10</sup>I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years.

<sup>11</sup>I said, I shall not see the LORD, even the LORD, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.

<sup>12</sup>Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me. (A shepherd migrates with the flock. He doesn't have a permanent home. When a weaver cuts the last thread; that is the end of the weaving of the cloth)

<sup>13</sup>I reckoned till morning, that, as a lion, so will he break all my bones: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me. (In one day, he'll be gone. After God gave Hezekiah the reprieve that he asked for; but he knew exactly how long he had left – 15 years)

<sup>14</sup>Like a crane or a swallow, so did I chatter: I did mourn as a dove: mine eyes fail with looking upward: O LORD, I am oppressed; undertake for me. (In his mind, Hezekiah knew he had been a sorry leader to Judah. Maybe he was wondering why God gave him a second chance)

<sup>15</sup>What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul. (He seems repentant. Maybe he finally learned a lesson and is changing his ways)

<sup>16</sup>O LORD, by these things men live, and in all these things is the life of my spirit: so wilt thou recover me, and make me to live. (He might receive eternal life with God; if he truly gets it right with the second chance that God gave him)

<sup>17</sup>Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back. (Hezekiah was hell bound until he was told to prepare for his death. He then repented for his sins in fear. He was forgiven by God after he repented. God is merciful to us all)

<sup>18</sup> For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. (God is eternal life. Those who hate Him will die. Those who choose to love God and to live by His commandments will live forever in the Third Age)

<sup>19</sup> The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth. (The Word of God cannot be stopped. It never changes. It goes on from generation to generation, down through the ages)

<sup>20</sup> The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD. (This is the songs of degrees in the Book of Psalms) see Psalm-120 → Psalm-134

<sup>21</sup> For Isaiah had said, Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaister upon the boil, and he shall recover. (By God's command, Hezekiah was healed. He lived 15 more years as God told him)

<sup>22</sup> Hezekiah also had said, What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the LORD? 2Kings-20:9

(Hezekiah didn't deserve another 15 years. He was an idolatrous leader. But upon repentance, God forgave him and gave him a chance to set things right. HE can do the same for all of us, if we repent, live by His Ten Commandments and love Him as our God)