

2 Kings 20

King James Version (KJV)

(Hezekiah's illness, also recorded in Isaiah-38)

20 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live. (This goes back in time to the 14th year of Hezekiah's 29 year reign. This happened before the fall of Sennacherib in the previous chapter)

(At this time, Hezekiah is only 40. He has no sons, to be heir to the throne. God promised David that his heirs would sit on the throne of Judah. Today, this is accomplished by God, Himself, as Jesus Christ. HE was born in the flesh through David's son, Nathan. HE will rule forever as king of kings, Lord of lords) 2Samuel-7

²Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying, (Hezekiah was a good and righteous king who loved God)

³I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now 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 destroyed all the high places to false gods and re-opened Yahoveh's temple after decades of it being closed. He held a great Passover in the temple for all of Judah. Also there was no heir to the throne should Hezekiah die now)

⁴And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

⁵Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

⁶And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. (God promised King David that there will always be one of his descendants who will sit upon the throne of Judah) 2 Samuel-7

(Today, this is Jesus Christ – God in the form of a flesh man. HE will rule forever as King of kings, Lord of lords)

(Psalms-120 through Psalms134 (These have been called the Psalms of degrees. Ten of these Psalms were written by Hezekiah during these 15 years. The other 4 were written by David and 1 by Solomon, many years before)

⁷ And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered. (Possibly had an inflammation, or an infection; God healed him, not the figs)

⁸ And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day? (Similar to Gideon and his fleece; Hezekiah is looking for a sign from God)

⁹ And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees? (This is concerning the sun's shadow on the sundial; should it go forwards or backwards?)

¹⁰ And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees. (He wants the sun's shadow to go backwards 10 degrees on the sundial)

(God created the universe. HE controls nature. HE can control the passage of time. HE has the power over life and death)

¹¹ And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz. (God also lengthened the day for Joshua when the Israelites were fighting the Amorites) See Joshua-10:12-14

¹² At that time Berodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick. (This is the first contact to Judah by Babylon. At this time Babylon are a small nation)

¹³ And Hezekiah hearkened unto them, and shewed them all the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not. (Hezekiah was flattered by their visit. These visitors must have been spying out Judah)

(This was a huge mistake on Hezekiah's part. He showed them all of his treasures and his armories. This set up the invasion of Judah by Babylon many years later)

¹⁴ Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country, even from Babylon. (Babylon = confusion)

¹⁵ And he said, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All the things that are in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them. (God was testing Hezekiah. Hezekiah failed miserably. His pride in himself led him into stupidity) 2Chronicles-32:30-32

¹⁶ And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.

¹⁷ Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD. (Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, will take it all – 200 years later)

¹⁸ And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon. (This verse refers to all the sons of Judah, not just Hezekiah's sons. They will serve the king of Babylon)

¹⁹ Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days? (Hezekiah is a selfish loser. He is saying – it's all good, as long as it happens after I'm gone. I won't have to pay for what I have done)

(He was just as selfish and foolish as our leaders today. The people suffer while they overtax and steal what they can to enrich themselves. The nation falls deeper into debt while they get richer)

²⁰ And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 2Chronicles chapters 29-32 (Hezekiah re-fortified Jerusalem. He was a good king for the people. He was faithful to God but he was foolish in his pride)

²¹ And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead. (Manasseh was one of the worst kings of Judah)