

2 Kings 20:1-21 **Hezekiah's sickness – His Life extended – Visitors from Babylon**

Hezekiah's Life Extended (2 Chron 32:24-26; Isa 38:1-8)

¹ In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.'"

² Then he turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the Lord, saying, ³ "Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

⁴ And it happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁵ "Return and tell Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord. ⁶ And I will add to your days fifteen years. I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake, and for the sake of My servant David.'"

⁷ Then Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." So they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

⁸ And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What is the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of the Lord the third day?"

⁹ Then Isaiah said, "This is the sign to you from the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing which He has spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees or go backward ten degrees?"

¹⁰ And Hezekiah answered, "It is an easy thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees; no, but let the shadow go backward ten degrees."

¹¹ So Isaiah the prophet cried out to the Lord, and He brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down on the sundial of Ahaz.

The Babylonian Envoys (Isaiah 39:1-8)

¹² At that time Berodach-Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that Hezekiah had been sick. ¹³ And Hezekiah was attentive to them, and showed them all the house of his treasures — the silver and gold, the spices and precious ointment, and all his armory — all that was found among his treasures. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.

¹⁴ Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?"

So Hezekiah said, "They came from a far country, from Babylon."

¹⁵ And he said, "What have they seen in your house?"

So Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them."

16 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the Lord: 17 'Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left,' says the Lord. 18 'And they shall take away some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.'"

19 So Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the Lord which you have spoken is good!" For he said, "Will there not be peace and truth at least in my days?"

Death of Hezekiah (2 Chron 32:32-33)

20 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah — all his might, and how he made a pool and a tunnel and brought water into the city — are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 21 So Hezekiah rested with his fathers. Then Manasseh his son reigned in his place.
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Facts Revealed:

Hezekiah's Life Extended [2 Kings 20:1-11] (2 Chronicles 32:24-26; Isaiah 38:1-8, 22)

- ✧ In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.'" [2 Kings 20:1]
- ✧ Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the Lord, saying, "Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. [2 Kings 20:2-3]
 - ◇ The thought of dying is fearful in the heart of most people, and we pray for healing and long life. In the case of Hezekiah, he did have a good life record of faithfulness, but he had no knowledge of the future consequences of his request. It is often best to accept God's first call to end our lives. If our life is prolonged it might have dire consequences.
- ✧ Before Isaiah reached the middle of the court on his departure, Yahweh sent him back to Hezekiah with this message:

Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the Lord. And I will add to your days fifteen years.

I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake, and for the sake of My servant David." [2 Kings 20:4-6]

◇ God responded to the prayer of Hezekiah by granting him healing and a 15 year extension of life.

◇ God hears our prayers and sees our tears, which are precious to Him for His faithful saints.

- ✧ Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." So they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered. [2 Kings 20:7]

Sign of the sun-dial and shadow (Isaiah 38:7-8)

- ✧ Hezekiah asked for a sign to indicate that he would be healed and enter the Temple on the third day as Isaiah had predicted. [2 Kings 20:8-11]
 - ◇ Isaiah gave Hezekiah a choice to request, the shadow of the sundial move ten degrees forward or backward. Hezekiah chose backward.
 - ◇ Yahweh accepted Hezekiah's choice and the shadow went ten degrees backward on the sundial of Ahaz.

The Babylonian Envoys [2 Kings 20:12-19] (Isaiah 39:1-8)

- ✧ When Berodach-Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, heard that Hezekiah had been sick he sent letters and a present to Hezekiah. [2 Kings 20:12, Isaiah 39:1]
- ✧ Hezekiah gained great wealth because of his heart for the Lord. [2 Kings 20:13, 2 Chronicles 32:27-29]
- ✧ Hezekiah showed the Babylonians all his great wealth. [2 Kings 20:13, 2 Chronicles 32:31, Isaiah 39:2]
- ✧ Isaiah the prophet asked Hezekiah about the visitors, what they had seen, and where they were from. [2 Kings 20:14, Isaiah 39:3-4]
- ✧ Hezekiah told Isaiah that the visitors were from Babylon and had seen everything of all his treasuries. [2 Kings 20:14-15, Isaiah 39:4]
- ✧ Isaiah told Hezekiah that soon everything will be carried to Babylon and his sons will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon. [2 Kings 20:16-18, Isaiah 39:5-7]
- ✧ Hezekiah said it was good For "There will be peace and truth at least in my days."
[2 Kings 20:19, Isaiah 39:8]

Death of Hezekiah [2 Kings 20:20-21] (2 Chron 32:32,33)

- ✧ Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah — all his might, and how he made a pool and a tunnel and brought water into the city — are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
So Hezekiah rested with his fathers.
Then Manasseh his son reigned in his place. [2 Kings 20:20-21]
- ✧ Hezekiah was buried in the tombs of the sons of David with great honor. [2 Chronicles 32:33]
- ✧ Manasseh his son reigned in his place.
- ✧ Manasseh was a wicked king who was born to Hezekiah three years after Hezekiah's life was extended for 15 years. A curse to the kingdom of Judah. For the sake of the kingdom it would have been better if Hezekiah had died before Manasseh was conceived.