

The Book of Isaiah

Trusting God More #18

Some of the outlines are taken from Melissa Spoelstra's book, *Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting More*.

Review of the previous Lesson: Chapter 36-37. The shift from the prophetic to history. We left having discussed the story of Hezekiah in part.

Opening Discussion: How many times has the Lord spared your life? Afterwards, what was your response or commitment?

Read Chapter 38:1-3

Hezekiah reigned over Judah for 29 years. Fifteen years prior to his death he became critically ill. (See 2 Kings 18:2 for the context). All of this happened in the same year---the sickness of Hezekiah and the siege of Jerusalem by the Assyrians.

Notice the sentence of death was delivered by Isaiah in verse 1.

What do you think the Lord meant by saying "put your house in order."
What do you think He is saying to us regarding the same?

Scholars believe Hezekiah had a boil. So, imagine him in his sickroom with a malignant boil. Read 2 Kings 18:4-7. What action did he take?

Did God hear his prayer and how long did it take God to respond?
What did God promise?

Read verse 6 and see what God promised in addition to the 15 years.
For some reason, God tied in the deliverance of Jerusalem with Hezekiah's death.

Read 2 Kings 8-10 and Isaiah 38:2. Read what God said he was going to do for a sign in which Hezekiah had asked for

Can you see Hezekiah's illuminated eyes realizing God had brighter because of the additional 15 years and the fulfillment of the sign he asked God to do?

How did you respond when your life was spared?

Discuss the sign. What signs do we see now? Wonder did Hezekiah ponder the real meaning of the sun-dial?

Remember in Isaiah 7:10-13. Hezekiah had witnessed the death of Ahaz, his father, in the same palace. Now, the situation had reversed. The meaning of the translated word for sundial means “to go up.”

Read verses 9-22.

Notice it reads like a thesis on death by Hezekiah. In verse 20, it was set to music. Hezekiah realized he should have died at the appointed time.

Refer to Psalm 40:2-3.

Some shocking news. Read 2 Chronicles verse 32:25.

What happened to Hezekiah? What happened to us? The Bible says “for his heart was lifted up....”).

God blessed Hezekiah with a son during his illness. Manasseh was born during his reign and his illness.

Chapter 39

Chapter 39 begins with a transfer from Assyria as the enemy of Judah. Babylon became the great city.

Chapter 39 shows Hezekiah’s frailty and weakness.

What mistake did Hezekiah make in chapter 39. He felt comfortable opening his treasures to Merodachbaladan. This was NOT good!

What mistake do we make when we show our treasures? Later, when the king of Babylon needed gold and silver, he knew where to go.

Who came to his rescue in verse 3. Why do you think Hezekiah had no discernment? Read verse 4. Sad! Sad! Sad! This was the fulfillment of the prophecy in 2 Kings 24-25 and Daniel 1. The prophecy had to be fulfilled!