



**Turning Back
The Hands
Of Time!**

2 Kings 20: 1-11

Observations

- ▶ When you read the story of Hezekiah in the Bible, you cannot help but be impressed with his accomplishments
- ▶ The King of Assyria, named Sennacherib, had come to capture the city of Jerusalem (2 Kings 19); and he even sent a letter to Hezekiah saying that his God wouldn't save him and that he would fall
- ▶ The Bible says that Hezekiah and Isaiah prayed to the Lord and God sent an angel to kill 185,000 enemy soldiers (*"for my own sake and David's"* (2 Kings 19:34-35))
- ▶ Your walk with God can influence God for others you love

Your Walk With God Can Influence Your Medical Prognosis!

- ▶ We are familiar with 2 Kings 20 which recounts the story of Hezekiah when he was critically ill and was told to *“Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.”*
- ▶ He “turned his face to the wall” (signifying his urgency)
- ▶ He prayed one of the most serious prayers recorded in scripture (a weeping prayer)

He asked Lord to heal him, remembering his record:

“I have walked before thee in truth” (Not double-minded)

“with a loyal heart” (devoted)

“I have done that which was good in Your sight” (You saw me)

Hezekiah Got What He Wanted!

- ▶ Shortly after Isaiah left his bedside, God told Isaiah to go back to him.
- ▶ Tell Hezekiah that He had heard his prayer and had seen the integrity of his tears
- ▶ He told Hezekiah that He would extend his life 15 more years
- ▶ Not only that, but God said He would deliver Hezekiah and the city from its enemy (the Assyrians). *God would bless others because Hezekiah tried to do what was right (you can do it too)*

Observations

- ▶ Then Isaiah asked Hezekiah, in verse 7, to place a layer of “figs” on the boil on his skin (indicating to me that Hezekiah possibly had septicemia, or blood poisoning) and the Bible says he begin to improve
- ▶ Now Hezekiah begins to ACT LIKE US! He asked Isaiah, in verse 8, *“How do I know if God is healing me or the plaster of figs?”* (Things are immediately turning around and because biology was involved, he questions the origin of his improvement)

Oh Ye Of Little Faith!

Here Is Where God “Turns Back the Hands Of Time” for Hezekiah!

- ▶ God humors himself by going along with Hezekiah’s notion (Remember, he has gone from bitter tears, fearing his own death, to intellectually questioning God)
- ▶ So God says in effect, in verses 9-11, “Since you tell time by sundials and shadows, you decide if you want time, RIGHT NOW, to go forward or backward 10 steps/degrees”
- ▶ Hezekiah says, “*if it goes backward, I am satisfied.*”

God Makes Time Go Backward!



***Has God Ever Satisfied
Himself By Specifically
Answering Your
Request, Thereby
Increasing Your Faith!***

God Is In Control Of The Elements For His Children's Faith

- ▶ In Judges 6, to confirm God's approval of his leadership, Gideon asked for a sign of a dry wool fleece on a wet floor, then he asked God to reverse the sign the next day - and He Did
- ▶ In Joshua 10, Joshua asked God to allow the Sun to stand still (keep daylight longer) so that He could defeat his enemies - and He did
- ▶ In 2 Kings 20, Hezekiah asked God to "turn time backwards" to show his healing was of God and not medical science - and He did

What Was Key For The
Children Of God In All Of
These Instances?

*His Relationship
To Them and
Obedience To
His Will!*

Obedience Is the Key!

- ▶ The Key to the blind man in John 9 receiving his sight
- ▶ The Key to getting Peter out of Prison
- ▶ The Key to getting Paul to Rome overcoming shipwreck
- ▶ The Key to the Ethiopian Eunuch's salvation
- ▶ The Key to John's disciples' salvation
- ▶ The Key to Our salvation and future blessings

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent Of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38