

## Isaiah 38

1. At some point, Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. (Is 38:1)
  - a. What was Isaiah's message to Hezekiah from the Lord? (Is 38:1)
  - b. How did Hezekiah respond? (Is 38:2)
2. Hezekiah's prayer was effective. (Is 38:2-6)
  - a. How did Hezekiah's prayer affect God? (Is 38:4-5)
  - b. What two things did God promise Hezekiah? (Is 38:5-6)
  - c. How did Hezekiah promise to live the rest of his life? (Is 38:15-17)
3. Signs that announce and reinforce divine promises are a characteristic feature of Isaiah's ministry.
  - a. Describe the sign of proof of God's promise to Hezekiah. (Is 38:7-8)
  - b. *Reflection*: Have you or anyone you know had an amazing physical sign from God in answer to prayer? Please share your story.
4. Hezekiah's psalm of thanksgiving (Is 38:9-20), recounts the trials faced by the king during his sickness and expresses gratitude to God for rescuing him from death.
  - a. Why did Hezekiah think he had to suffer? (Is 38:17)
  - b. In addition to bodily healing, how did the Lord show his mercy for Hezekiah? (Is 38:17)
  - c. *Reflection*: Have you ever suffered an adversity that brought you closer to God?
5. How did Hezekiah describe the differences between the dead and the living? (Is 38:18-20)
6. What was the physical act Isaiah did to assist in the king's healing? (Is 38:21)

**Isaiah 39 Note: The king of Babylon sent Hezekiah letters and a gift because he had heard of his illness and recovery. Many scholars contend that his envoys came to Jerusalem with more than a "get well" wish. Others suggest that Babylon might be seeking a political alliance with Judah in opposition to Assyria.**

7. Why do you think Hezekiah gave the Babylonian envoys such an extensive tour of his holdings? (Is 39:2, 4)
8. God was not pleased that Hezekiah had opened up his wealth and treasures to the Babylonians. (Is 39:5-7)
  - a. *Reflection*: Can you imagine why God was not pleased?
  - b. What does Isaiah's prophecy say will happen to those riches? (Is 39:6)
  - c. What does Isaiah's prophecy say will happen to some of Hezekiah's own descendants? (Is 39:7)
9. Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the Lord you have spoken is good." (Is 39:8)
  - a. What were Hezekiah's thoughts about Isaiah's prophecy? (Is 39:8)
  - b. *Reflection*: How would you describe Hezekiah's reaction to Isaiah?
10. *Reflection*: Do you think there are any similar "showing off of riches" today? Give examples.