

## **B**argaining With God, Isaiah Ch. 38-39

*Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, saying, go and say to Hezekiah, "Thus says the Lord, the God of your father David, 'I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will add fifteen years to your life.' Is. 38:4-5*

*But Hezekiah gave no return for the benefit he received, because his heart was proud; therefore wrath came on him and on Judah and Jerusalem. II Chronicles 32:25*

### **The Narrative**

- Hezekiah's Illness. Is 38:1, II Kings 20:1, II Ch. 32:24
- Hezekiah's Prayer. Is 38:9-22
- God's Messages to Hezekiah through Isaiah.
  - The first message, 38:1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - The second message, 38:5-8. \_\_\_\_\_
  - The third message, 39:5-7. \_\_\_\_\_
- Hezekiah's reaction. 39:8. \_\_\_\_\_

### **The Outcome**

- Hezekiah's life is prolonged.
- He starts "showing off." \_\_\_\_\_
- Babylon begins 100 years of lust for the wealth of Jerusalem. \_\_\_\_\_
- He has a son in the third year of his prolonged life. \_\_\_\_\_

### ✓ **The Manasseh confluence**

- When God's will is merged with ours. \_\_\_\_\_
- The human condition: how do we respond to relief from oppression and despair?
  - We party. \_\_\_\_\_
  - We quickly forget. \_\_\_\_\_
  - We become cocky. \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

## **A Prayer in Contrast**

*Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me." And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me: yet not as I will, but as You will." Matthew 26:38-39*

- The human side
  - Despair of rejection and exile. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Fear of the unknown. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Anxiety over life itself. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bargaining with God. \_\_\_\_\_
- The divine influence
  - Faith in a greater cause. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Acceptance of a greater good. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Peace over a perfected outcome. \_\_\_\_\_

## **God's Will**

### ✓ **When we listen to God.**

- He works his will according to his Purpose.
- Peace reigns.
- Lives are redeemed and delivered to God.
- Evil is beaten before it starts.
- Defeat and captivity are avoided.

### ✓ **When God listens to us.**

- We get our way, regardless of God's purpose.
- Confusion and chaos reign.
- Lives are put at risk.
- Evil finds a new doorway.
- Captivity comes before deliverance.

*God's ultimate perfect plan shall come to pass. Within this divine purpose He has allowed us to see the less than perfect results of our attempts to advise Him. From the beginning mankind has sought to negotiate with God, to take authority from him, and tell him what to do. The result has always been confusion, chaos, suffering, and further loss. Yet when we submit to the will of God his perfect purpose is then made clear to us.*

*"My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness."*

*II Corinthians 12:9*

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