### Isaiah

## Chapter 38

1Well, it was shortly after this that HezekiAh became ill to the point of death. And the Prophet IsaiAh (son of Amoz) went to him and told him:  
  
 ‘This is what Jehovah has said:  
  
 Give orders regarding your house,  
 Because you won’t live… You will die.’  
  
2Then HezekiAh turned his face to the wall and started praying to Jehovah, saying:  
  
 3‘O Jehovah,  
  
 ‘Remember that I’ve walked before You in truth and with a true heart, and remember all the things that I’ve done to please You.’  
  
And at that, HezekiAh broke down and cried.  
  
  
4Well, the Word of Jehovah then came to IsaiAh and said:  
  
 5‘Go tell HezekiAh that Jehovah said this:  
  
 ‘The God of your ancestor David  
 Has heard your prayer and seen your tears.  
 So, {Look!} 15 more years, I will add to your [life]…  
 6And I will also save you and this city  
 From the hands of Assyria’s king.  
 For, around this city, I am putting a shield.’  
  
 7‘And Jehovah says that this is your sign that He’s going to do all these things...  
  
 ‘He said:  
  
 8‘{Look!} I will cause the shadow of the sun  
 That moves down 10 stairs in the house of your fathers,  
 To go up the 10 stairs it went down.’  
  
  
9Well, this is the prayer that HezekiAh the king of Judah prayed after [learning that he would] recover from his illness:  
  
 10‘I prayed to the heavens concerning my days,  
 For I’d approached the gate to the place of the dead,  
 And I had been robbed of the rest of my years.  
  
 11‘So I said that I’ll not look to Jehovah again  
 Within the land of the living.  
 And no way will I [be seen] anymore  
 By any of those who are living.  
  
 12‘My family, I had forsaken,  
 And I’d [written off] the rest of my life.  
 For my life was ending and leaving like those  
 Who [that spend just a night] in a tent,  
 And my breath had become like the end of the weave,  
 To be cut off like wool from a loom.  
  
 13‘In that day, I was spared through the morning;  
 Then, like a lion, He broke all my bones…  
 From morning ‘til night I was conquered.  
 14So, should I call out like a swallow,  
 Or like a dove, just take time to think?  
  
 ‘When my eyes could no longer see into the heights,  
 Jehovah became my salvation…  
 15He acted and removed the grief from my soul.  
  
 16‘Yes, to Jehovah, I [prayed] about this,  
 And then He awakened my spirit…  
 I’m alive, because He sent comfort to me.  
  
 17‘{Look!} The thought of resting in peace  
 Was something truly bitter for me…  
 But You gave back my life, so I’d live,  
 And You pushed all my sins to the rear.  
 18So, those in the grave should all praise You,  
 And those who are dying should bless You.  
  
 ‘But, it’s too late for those in the grave,  
 19Since only the living can praise You.  
 So, from this day, I’ll raise many children  
 Who will shout in praise of Your justice.  
  
 20‘O [Jehovah] my Savior,  
  
 ‘For the rest of my life, I will praise You…  
 I’ll not cease to strum on my harp about You  
 In the Temple of my God.’  
  
21Then IsaiAh said to HezekiAh:  
  
 ‘Now, take a cluster of dried figs and grind them up to make a plaster [for your chest], and thereafter, your health will return.’  
  
22And that’s when HezekiAh asked:  
  
 ‘What’s the sign that I’ll be able to go up to the Temple of my God once again?’