

SERMON APPLICATION SHEET FOR:

Pastor Tony Felich

The Legacy of Betraying the Cause
of God

Isaiah 38-39

May 22, 2016

Sermon Text

Isaiah [38:1] In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, "Thus says the Lord: Set your house in order, for you shall die, you shall not recover." [2] Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, [3] and said, "Please, O Lord, remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. [4] Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah: [5] "Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Behold, I will add fifteen years to your life. [6] I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and will defend this city. [7] "This shall be the sign to you from the Lord, that the Lord will do this thing that he has promised: [8] Behold, I will make the shadow cast by the declining sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps." So the sun turned back on the dial the ten steps by which it had declined. [9] A writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, after he had been sick and had recovered from his sickness: [10] I said, In the middle of my days I must depart; I am consigned to the gates of Sheol for the rest of my years. [11] I said, I shall not see the Lord, the Lord in the land of the living; I shall look on man no more among the inhabitants of the world. [12] My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me like a shepherd's tent; like a weaver I have rolled up my life; he cuts me off from the loom; from day to night you bring me to an end; [13] I calmed myself until morning; like a lion he breaks all my bones; from day to night you bring me to an end. [14] Like a swallow or a crane I chirp; I moan like a dove. My eyes are weary with looking upward. O Lord, I am oppressed; be my pledge of safety! [15] What shall I say? For he has spoken to me, and he himself has done it. I walk slowly all my years because of the bitterness of my soul. [16] O Lord, by these things men live, and in all these is the life of my spirit. Oh restore me to health and make me live! [17] Behold, it was for my welfare that I had great bitterness; but in love you have delivered my life from

the pit of destruction, for you have cast all my sins behind your back. [18] For Sheol does not thank you; death does not praise you; those who go down to the pit do not hope for your faithfulness. [19] The living, the living, he thanks you, as I do this day; the father makes known to the children your faithfulness. [20] The Lord will save me, and we will play my music on stringed instruments all the days of our lives, at the house of the Lord. [21] Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a cake of figs and apply it to the boil, that he may recover." [22] Hezekiah also had said, "What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the Lord?"

[39:1] At that time Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. [2] And Hezekiah welcomed them gladly. And he showed them his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his whole armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. [3] Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say? And from where did they come to you?" Hezekiah said, "They have come to me from a far country, from Babylon." [4] He said, "What have they seen in your house?" Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house. There is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them." [5] Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the Lord of hosts: [6] Behold, the days are coming, when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says the Lord. [7] And some of your own sons, who will come from you, whom you will father, shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon." [8] Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the Lord that you have spoken is good." For he thought, "There will be peace and security in my days."

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Sermon Application Questions	Sermon Outline
<p>1. What does our view of death reveal about our faith?</p> <p>2. How does selfishness impact our decision making? Why is this such a struggle?</p>	<p>Hezekiah's actions as king illustrate this truth: A self-centered heart (instead of a God-centered one) leads to short-sighted decisions and actions that leave a tragic legacy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I. A telling plea (38:1-22)II. Troubling actions (39:1-4)III. Tragic words (39:5-8)
<p>3. If we can have "peace in our life time", why should we care about the long term impact of our decisions and actions?</p> <p>4. How could Hezekiah's interaction with the Babylonian envoys been used as a way to bear witness to God and His salvation? How might this challenge our way of interacting with those who come inquiring?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Requests</p> <p>This week our family will lift up requests for:</p> <p>This week our family will praise the Lord for:</p>
<p>5. Discuss this statement from Alec Motyer-</p> <p>“Hezekiah was one of the most truly human of the kings, and his portrait here accords with what is recorded elsewhere. He was a man whose heart was genuinely moved towards the Lord but whose will was fickle under the pressures and temptations of life. Like David who was his ancestor, and unlike the greater David who was his descendent, his first thoughts were for himself.”</p>	<p>HFG Notes & Actions:</p> <p>Next HFG meeting is:</p>