

TOPIC: THE PROPER RESPONSE WHEN GOD HEALS YOU!**Scripture: Isaiah 38:19-22****Bible Teacher: Rev. Alice D. Tamrie****I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND BIBLICAL CONTEXT****A. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The Book of Isaiah is about the prophecy and judgment of Judah during 700BC-681 BC. God has chosen Isaiah as one of the five major prophets to convince the people that salvation (the gift of God through faith in Jesus Christ for us to get right with God) was possible through repentance and hope in the coming Messiah. God is speaking through these chapters these possible considerations: condemnation (1-39); comfort in exile (40-55); and a Future Hope (56-66). The key verse is Isaiah 9:6: "For us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace". The Bible fully and clearly shows that Jesus was fully God.

B. BIBLICAL CONTEXT

For believers to get it right, God sovereignty is shown throughout by the portraits of a man called Hezekiah, the 13th king of Judah (29 years) and on the throne showed how God saved the city of Jerusalem from the Assyrian army by the death angel (2 Kings 19). We will see a portrait of this good king though not a perfect one. An inscription in ancient Hebrew was found by two boys in 1880 the tunnel of water architected by Hezekiah which provided water to Jerusalem during the siege of King Sennacherib of Assyria. He was a good king; then what is bad? The biblical writers were not as interested in a king's abilities as an administrator as they were in the king's desire to follow God's commands versus those who outlawed the altars to foreign gods, the high places, and idol worship. Those who did not were "evil". Biblically you will see the phrase "He did evil in the eyes (or sight) of the Lord," to evaluate the King's reign. Today we reference this man of God in chapter 28, highlighting the fact that this man was a man of prayer demonstrating how we are to properly respond when God answers our prayers. We will learn that Hezekiah source and strength was his response whenever there a crisis in 1) choice-forsaking idol worship by purging it from his life; 2) crisis in invasion: as a leader during war time praying for deliverance (Isa. 36); 3) crisis in sickness – being obedient which gave him deliverance(Isa. 38); 4) crisis in prosperity – though he manifested moral pride by displaying all his goods to an evil king(Isa. 39). How will you be your respond when in a crisis whatever your condition of existence? Now here he is at 39 years old, the prime of life!

How do you respond? PRAY! PRAISE! SING! SEEK A REMEDY! CHECK YOUR ATTITUDE! TRUST IN GOD!

II. **LESSON:** “The Proper Response When God Heals You!” Isaiah 38:19-22

OBSERVATION: Not all sickness leads to death! God just wants us to not get it twisted! Yes, Hezekiah was a young king, but there are times even folks on all levels of life get sick! The first 18 verses lay the foundational portrait of Hezekiah when he became sick. He succeeded to the throne at 25 years old and was next in line after Ahaz-his father an evil king. He removed, meshed and broke into pieces all the godly idol worship gods his father had instituted – his father, King Ahaz had used even the furnishings of the Jerusalem temple for this evil worship that he placed on every street corner. This story emphasizes also how God helps young people at risk. Youth is supposed to be a time of energy and vitality. But what happens when extreme circumstances sap the life out of young people, robbing them of enthusiasm and rendering them too weak to go on? God has pledged himself to help young people at risk (Is. 40:30-31), as well as those who are lowly and despised, poor and needy, thirsty and hungry. This punctuates Isaiah’s prophecy throughout. If you work with young people at risk for “fainting” from the demands of life (Isa. 40), or if you yourself are close to giving up because of the circumstances weighing you down, you can take comfort from God, he will supply all your needs when you cannot.

A fuller portrait reveals from the biblical resources’ paints a picture portrait in summary, this young king’s life tapestry. He as not only a **king of Judah-** decisively and courageously, but an **architect, a war strategist administrator** (2 Chronicles 32)- who built a secret tunnel with walls, terraces, weapons and shields during his reign over the years. He was also an **encourager** for his people. What a spiritual gift as a leader. One of his quotes when in war with the enemy: “with him (the enemy) is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord Our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people gained confidence”. Base your confidence in God when others attempt to mislead you (Isaiah 37). With this kind of confidence, we also see he began a **religious revivalist**. We can also observe Hezekiah was a **prayer warrior**. He surrendered his whole self to God demonstrating how he must really get into his feeling. He went into the sanctuary of God and spread things out before God as he did in a letter (Isa. 37:14-25). It is recorded that he was a **married man, and a parent** who had a son, Manasseh, 3 years after this biblical recovery (who later became a bad king). Yet, Hezekiah, illustrates to us that just because he came from bad blood of his evil-ruling father, he was not “like father-like son” resulting in being a good king.

A PROPER RESPONSES: When you are threatened/intimidated in a troubled crisis in the day of distress by boasters, scorners, scoffers, atheism, feeling fainthearted, powerless (36:1-3)

- Attend God's house to inquire of Him with reverence with trusted friends (37:1-2) addressing him as "Lord, My God; Lord Almighty, Acknowledging God's Sovereignty/Dominion as he had divine control, and His Word is sure (37:8)
- Bring your evidence (letter) and spread it before the Lord with boldness and confidence. Ask for divine hearing, divine vision, seek salvation (37:14-20)
- Express your concern for divine counsel sharing what the enemy is wickedly planning, giving clarity as you see it (37:22-35)
- Expect a prophetic affirmation of expectancy from someone (37:36-38)

A PROPER RESPONSES TO GOD: When at the point of illness and at the point of death, a response may be likened to Hezekiah (

- Personally, pray where you are (38:2)
- Immediately as you are informed, pray and prep for a readiness as death is universal (38:1)
- Have you tried your best! Pray immediately and feelings of confession recalling to God, your best efforts briefly and what and how you have walked in truth in God's sight (38:2-3)
- Get in your emotions-weep bitterly, if you want; don't hold the tears, lament, mourn, grieving (38:3)
- Expect relief as God prophetically will send a person of inspiration with a promise of deliverance in divine defense of your appeal (38-4) giving you exactness to your appeal.
- Sometimes, not all, signs may be given as only God's power can – supernaturally ((38:4-7)

PROPER RESPONSES TO GOD WHEN YOU ARE HEALED-(38:9-15) After your illness and recovery (38:9-22), the response is the same when you approach the throne as it is for your recovery. What he wrote and then recovered from his sickness:

1. **vv. 9-12: Acknowledge your limitations.** Biblical records indicate that King Hezekiah was a great devotee to devotional literature and ordered the Levites to worship God with psalms of David and others. He was young and in the prime of his life and was dying at a young age and had no heirs (A son was born 3 years after his recovery). Get into a posture of prayer, even write being specific, frailty, hopeless. "Like prey to a lion, mourn like a dove".

2. **vv. 13-17: Get a reverent attitude to hardship!** Hezekiah models an exemplary attitude to hardship: He accepted trials as part of God's good plan for him. (see Rom. 8:28). The forgiveness of sin and healing are of God's salvation (Matt. 8:14-17; Luke 5:17-26). Apparently, Hezekiah's poor health was connected to his sin. Yet not all sickness is because of one's sin (see Job 42:7-11; John 9:2,3). Always look heavenward, even with your afflictions; seeking restoration and longevity to the Divine Deliverer knowing you are forgiven- "for the grave cannot praise you, death cannot sing your praise". God, you have added 15 years to my life, all my days from this point on I will go softly and allow the healing to be remembered to make me serious and full of gratitude (vs. 15)!
3. **vv. 16-19: Praise God - for healing can only be offered while a person is alive (Ps. 6:5).** Hope for temporal life cannot be extended beyond death but hope for eternal life remains beyond death (Ps. 22:22-31; 2 Tim: 1:10; Heb. 2:10-12); 1 John 5:11, 12.) Though and at times Our children's ears are still for us to teach our children of God's faithfulness...let them see and hear YOUR lifestyle. You still seek the salvation of God: "The living, the living-they praise you." By these promises of God, you have given me, do men live. I am alive by virtue of these things!
4. **v. 20: SING a song! Put some music on! Sing a Song Praise! Isaiah 12:1-6.** Sing as long as you have breath. Rejoice in the Lord until the end. If possible, fellowship! I must sing, instead of peace I had bitterness until YOU love me and delivered me from death! I am now forgiven for my sins, all put behind your back. I am living because of you! I am on probation and not dead!
5. **v. 21: Seeking a remedy** – physicians are gifted. All healing is of God, who may and often does mediate it THROUGH medicine and the skills of health care professionals. Spiritually, the healing was in the extension of the additional 15 years, the addition was for the cleansing and bringing healing completely...i.e. a second healing within the healing. OMG!
6. **vv. 22: Seek a sign but God's will be done; but it depends on one's attitude, the request for a sign may express either unbelief** (Matt. 12:39; John 6:30) or faith (v. 7). The healing of a boil would be the sign that the Lord would save Hezekiah (see vv. 20, 21). God will fix it for He works it out in strange ways and miracles to perform, that why it is spiritual and supernatural. Trust in God! It's a perfect time for God to act!

III. CONCLUSION: How do you respond? PRAY! PRAISE! SING! SEEK A REMEDY! CHECK YOUR ATTITUDE! TRUST IN GOD!