



## A Dying King

Pastor Joel DeSelm

2 Kings 20:1-11

1 In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the LORD says: Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover." 2 Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, 3 "Remember, O LORD, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. 4 Before Isaiah had left the middle court, the word of the LORD came to him: 5 "Go back and tell Hezekiah, the leader of my people, 'This is what the LORD, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the LORD. 6 I will add fifteen years to your life. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my sake and for the sake of my servant David.'" 7 Then Isaiah said, "Prepare a poultice of figs." They did so and applied it to the boil, and he recovered. 8 Hezekiah had asked Isaiah, "What will be the sign that the LORD will heal me and that I will go up to the temple of the LORD on the third day from now?" 9 Isaiah answered, "This is the LORD's sign to you that the LORD will do what he has promised: Shall the shadow go forward ten steps, or shall it go back ten steps?" 10 "It is a simple matter for the shadow to go forward ten steps," said Hezekiah. "Rather, have it go back ten steps." 11 Then the prophet Isaiah called upon the LORD, and the LORD made the shadow go back the ten steps it had gone down on the stairway of Ahaz.

## Historical Background

1. Hezekiah became king at age \_\_\_\_\_ and was told at age \_\_\_\_\_ to get his house in order because he was going to die.
2. The "shadow on the stairway of Ahaz" was a way of measuring \_\_\_\_\_ in those days.
3. Given the choice, Hezekiah requested the shadow move \_\_\_\_\_ ten steps on the stairway of Ahaz.

## Practical Insights

1. Hezekiah responded out of devastation and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. God's responded out of compassion and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. God's miracle involved shining the light where the light had \_\_\_\_\_.