

A Case of Healing and Hubris
II Kings 20

THE HEALING—Walking by faith (1-11)

Prophecy—You’re going to die soon!

- ❖ This would make three early deaths in a row (dad =36, gramps =41).
See Isa. 38:9-20 for Hezekiah’s lamenting prayer for healing.
- ❖ Rare altering of prophetic word as in I Kgs. 21:21-29 or Jonah 3:4ff.

Prayer—Just consider all the great things I’ve done!

- ❖ Cf. Ps. 18:20-26. Sign / Stairway recall Ahaz’s reluctance, Isa. 7:10-13.
- ❖ Deliverance of city plus vs.13/18:15 suggest ch. 20 precedes ch. 18.
- ❖ Sign / Stairway recall Ahaz and his anti-sign attitude, Isa. 7:10-13.

THE HUBRIS—Walking by sight (12-21)

Pride—Just look at all the great things I’ve got!

- ❖ Innocent get well wishes aren’t this Babylonian’s aim by a long shot!
- ❖ Innocent hospitality isn’t Hezekiah’s motive, see II Chron. 32:23-25.
Fortunately humility prevails after the testing, II Chron. 32:26,31.

Prophecy—Your great things / descendants will go to Babylon!

- ❖ The boils were bad but bragging to a Babylonian is the bigger threat!
Recall pride = a reoccurring royal problem (Uzziah, Amaziah)
- ❖ Hezekiah accepts the future as justified and is grateful it’s not soon.

Feel free to pray very big--but don't forget to be very thankful if God comes through very big!

Be careful not to overlook “Babylonians” (tests) that often pop up after we’ve been doing so well!

