

## "Hezekiah the King" norpo Ezekiac

## (the third day thou shall go up unto the House of the Lord) Written by Father Mina Iskander

St Mina Church, Nashville TN

1) In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live. 2) Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying, 3) I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. 4) And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the Word of the LORD came to him, saying, 5) Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

6) And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. 7) And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.

8) And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the **LORD** will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the **LORD** the third day? 9) And Isaiah said, this sign shalt thou have of the **LORD**, that the **LORD** will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees? 10) And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

11) And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the **LORD**: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz. (2 Kings 20:1-11)

Many times we think that GOD does not love us especially in our time of the troubles. I think this Old Testament story shows us exactly the opposite is true. GOD healed Hezekiah the king from his sickness, adding fifteen years to his age and changing the length of that day and make it longer by bringing the shadow ten degrees backward because he prayed and cried out to the LORD. It is really amazing He ordered an outward application, a very cheap and common thing: "Lay a *lump of figs to the boil*, to ripen it and bring it to a head, that the matter of the disease may be discharged that way." This might contribute something to the cure, and yet, considering to what a height the disease had come, and how suddenly it was checked, the cure was no less than miraculous. It would seem he was sick of the plague, for we read of the boil or plague-sore, (verse 7). The same disease which was killing to the Assyrians was trying to him; God took it from him, and put it upon his enemies. "And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpsesî (2 Kings 19:35).

It was put to his choice whether the sun should go back or go forward; for it was really the Pantocrator. It is supposed that the degrees were half hours, and that it was just noon when the proposal was made, and the question is, "Shall the sun go back to its place at seven in the morning or forward to its place at five in the evening?" He desired the sun might go back ten degrees, because, though either would be a great miracle, yet, it being the natural course of the sun to go forward, its going back would seem more incredulous, and would be more significant of Hezekiah's *returning to the days of his youth*. It was accordingly done, upon the prayer of Isaiah (verse 11). He *cried unto the Lord* by special warrant and direction, and God brought the sun back ten degrees, which appeared to Hezekiah (for the sign was intended for him) by the going back of the shadow upon the dial of Ahaz.

God gives all of us a chance everyday to live a renewed life. Have you noticed a baby coming to life with zero in memory, with zero in relations? Same thing occurs with the LORD, He is not just extending your life, but giving you a new life to start over. **IT IS THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEATH**.

- Isn't the Glorious Resurrection to rise up from the sickness of the sins?
- Isn't the Glorious Resurrection the coming of the man of GOD to pray the absolution for you and breaking every bond of your sins?
- Isn't the Glorious Resurrection to rise on the third day and have victory over the enemy and the captivity of the devil?

See "Hezekiah the King" Continued on Page 51