

A pair of hands is clasped in prayer, with fingers interlaced and palms facing each other. The hands are positioned on the left side of the frame, extending from the bottom towards the top. The background is a textured, aged, light brown surface, possibly parchment or old paper, with some creases and discoloration. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the hands and the background.

Hezekiah's

Prayer

For Life

Isaiah 38:1-8

It is not evidence of a lack of faith
in God to not want to die.

Hezekiah in Isa. 38 vs. Paul in Phil. 1:19ff.

➤ Hezekiah's psalm in vss. 10-20.

- Prime of life (10a)
- Whole lot of living to do (10b)
- Still a lot to see (11)
- Life was being torn away (12), the prey of a lion (13)



It is not evidence of a lack of faith
in God to not want to die.

Hezekiah in Isa. 38 vs. Paul in Phil. 1:19ff.

- Hezekiah's prayer in vs. 3.
 - This is not how the life of a righteous Israelite is supposed to end!
 - Doesn't fit Lev. 26 and Deut. 28.



It is not evidence of a lack of faith
in God to not want to die.

Hezekiah in Isa. 38 vs. Paul in Phil. 1:19ff.

➤ Paul's life - 2 Tim. 4:6-8.

- Past his prime, nearing the end of life
- A hard race
- Many accomplishments, but much struggle
- Death would be a rest from the many lions that had been trying to tear him to pieces



It is not evidence of a lack of faith in God to not want to die.

Hezekiah in Isa. 38 vs. Paul in Phil. 1:19ff.

- For the Hezekiahs, a deep desire to live on is natural.
- For the Pauls, the more you should be thinking of death as a joyous opportunity to be with Jesus.
- Faith prepares us for the inevitable.



Prayer changes things.

- Faith does not insulate us from the physical struggles that are common to mankind.
- God's promise: there is power in prayer to change things - 1 John 5:14-15; Jas. 5:14-15.



Prayer changes things.

- Can prayer do the same for us that it did for Hezekiah?
 - God does not send modern-day prophets with a special message - Heb. 1:1-2; 1 Cor. 13:8-10



Prayer changes things.

- Can prayer do the same for us that it did for Hezekiah?
 - But God still has power to do exceedingly abundantly beyond all that we ask or think - Eph. 3:20.
 - God still wants us to pray to Him without ceasing - 1 Thes. 5:17.
 - Who knows what prayer might do?



God has not promised you a warning about approaching death, and He has not promised you a certain number of years. And, so, you must **KEEP** your house in order.

- Some people get a doctor's warning.
- Many die without any kind of warning.



God has not promised you a warning about approaching death, and He has not promised you a certain number of years. And, so, you must **KEEP** your house in order.

Jesus in Mark 13:33.

Paul in 1 Cor. 15:58.

Peter in 2 Pet. 3:14.



Death is inevitable.

**Is YOUR house
in order?**

Hebrews 9:27

