



Before the THRONE *The Devotional*

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

2 Kings 20:4

“And it came to pass, before Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him saying...” 2 Kings 20:4

Two things stand out in this story apart from the very obvious and apparent ones. Not the amazing confirming miracle that the Lord offers Hezekiah – the sun dial actually moving backward! Nor is it the king’s healing and the Lord’s promise of fifteen more years of life. What is so gripping is that Hezekiah’s prayer was not a long drawn out exercise, but rather a relatively short, albeit intense prayer or plea for God’s mercy and intervention! “Call unto Me and I will answer you...” (Jeremiah 33:3) Long, drawn out prayer does not impress the Lord – that kind of prayer may make you emotionally feel better – but it rarely produces an answer – unless, like Hezekiah’s short prayer – it is mixed with faith!¹

The second thing for us to notice is the prophet Isaiah and his wonderful flexibility to the voice of the Lord. Let’s be honest, most believers rarely, if ever hear the voice of the Lord (or should that be better said... recognize the voice of the Lord?) Then most often, those who hear from God become very rigid – almost legalistic in their stance and hence, they miss the next moving of the Spirit. One moment Isaiah is pronouncing Hezekiah’s soon coming death and within moments is prophesying another fifteen years of life for this sick king!

May we learn to pray as Hezekiah did and in like manner, learn to hear and respond to the voice of the Spirit like Isaiah!

¹ All prayer must be offered in faith if it is to be effective. There are those instances that the Lord may call us to prolonged seasons of prayer such as found in Luke 18, seasons of intense intercession and supplications. Such intercessions yet must still maintain strong faith-filled prayer.