



I WANT
TO LIVE!

When someone becomes aware that they will soon die, coupled with sadness of leaving earthly loved ones is their view of what is ahead.

- a) Expectation of extinction ... *no belief in a Creator or afterlife*
- b) Fear of judgement ... *belief in God but no confidence regarding forgiveness*
- c) Anticipation of glory ... *confidence in God's provision and promise*

“... And the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight ... Now there is in store for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, will award to me on that day, and not to me only but to all who have longed for his appearing.”

(II Timothy 4:7-8)

Hezekiah, King of Judah, 701 B.C. (Isaiah 38)
Received news that his sickness was terminal

HIGH DRAMA

ardent prayer and bitter weeping

God was moved by Hezekiah's argument/prayer

- **agreed** to a 15-year life extension
- **offered** a physical phenomenon as proof
(sundial shadows > backwards!)

When the drama was in the past, Hezekiah reflected on the experience with some profound insights.

vs. 10-14 Even when God chooses to heal, it may be through a **long** and **severe process**

vs. 15-16 Only one response is proper and fitting to God's CARE and HELP ... that is to give glory and honor to God. Nothing else is appropriate.

vs.17 Traveling from anguish (physical, emotional) into healing is a parable, a human picture of going from sin into forgiveness (spiritual). This process is beneficial!

vs.18-19 Only one time is proper and fitting to express THANKFULNESS and PRAISE. That time is now ... the only time we have assurance of. Gratitude expressed yesterday was for the blessings of yesterday. Express thanksgiving TODAY!

vs. 20 When you do not know the final outcome of your “high drama”, you can still praise the Lord as you live through it, **anticipating** (faith) what the Lord will do.