

The Original
“End of Daylight Saving Time”



However, none of these are the original end of DST.

That occurred in life of Hezekiah
(recorded in II Kgs. 20; Isa. 38),
the 13th king of Judah.

He was a good king who reigned for 29 years.

Three key chapters:

II Kings 18

- During his reign, Israel was taken captive by Assyria.
- Hezekiah paid tribute to Sennacherib of Assyria.
- Assyria threatened Judah with same destruction as Israel.

II Kings 19

- Isaiah was sent to tell Hezekiah not to be afraid of Assyria.
- The Angel of God killed 185,000 Assyrians in one night!

II Kings 20 provides the occasion for this lesson.

The parallel section is Isaiah 38:1-8.

2 Kings 20:1-11

In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.'

" Then he turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the LORD, saying, "Remember now, O LORD, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done *what was* good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. And it happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "Return and tell Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you.

On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD. And I will add to your days fifteen years. I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake, and for the sake of My servant David." ' " Then Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." So they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered. And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What *is* the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of the LORD the third day?" Then Isaiah said, "This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing which He has spoken: *shall* the shadow go forward ten degrees or go backward ten degrees?" And Hezekiah answered, "It is an easy thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees; no, but let the shadow go backward ten degrees." So Isaiah the prophet cried out to the LORD, and He brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down on the sundial of Ahaz.

I. Hezekiah's Problem (II Kings 20:1)

A. The sickness (disease) is not revealed,
but it involved a painful boil (vs. 7).

B. In comparison, all men are "sick" with sin,
and in need of a remedy only God can provide.

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

II. Hezekiah's Prognosis (II Kings 20:1)

A. Isaiah. revealed that he was going to die.

1. Likewise, sin leads men to death.

The "wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

2. Except for God's remedy, Hezekiah would have died.

3. Except for God's remedy, man will die in his sins.

B. Two thoughts:

1. Calvinism maintains that God foreordained "whatsoever comes to pass" from eternity; unchangeably so. Which of these is "unchangeable?" His death, or his recovery?
2. Isaiah is to be commended for telling Hezekiah he was going to die. As king, Hezekiah could have had Isaiah killed.

2 Samuel 12:7 Then Nathan said to David, "You *are* the man! Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.'

Hezekiah is bold in telling him the truth.

The truth that sin (ALL sin) brings death must be preached by bold men today, an unwanted message by society today!

III. Hezekiah's Prayer

(II Kings 20:2, 3)

A. This prayer was made at age 39...

1. He was the best king of Judah.

2. Had been preceded by and would be followed by two of the worst (Ahaz, his father and Manasseh, his son).

B. "Wept bitterly"

1. He had been told to "put his affairs in order".
2. One thing in particular - Hezekiah had no son...

2 Kings 20:6

"And I will add to your days fifteen years. I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake, and for the sake of My servant David."

2 Kings 21:1

Manasseh *was* twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name *was* Hephzibah.

3. His death would have meant the end of the Davidic line (many things are hanging in the balance of his "ordered house").

4. Perhaps potential chaos within the land would be one reason for his distress.

IV. Hezekiah's Postponement (II Kings 20:4-7)

A. God would deliver Hezekiah from death and Judah from Assyria. Note: this occurred before the Assyrians were slain in II Kings 19.

B. Hezekiah's "house" could be set in order...

1. 15 years added to his life.

2. This allowed for deliverance from Assyria.

3. In the intervening time he had a son (continuation of David's line).

C. God's prescription...

2 Kings 20:7

Then Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." So they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered.

Isaiah 38:21

Now Isaiah had said, "Let them take a lump of figs, and apply *it* as a poultice on the boil, and he shall recover."

1. What if he had not applied the required remedy?

2 Kings 5:10

And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and *you shall* be clean."

John 9:7

And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

3. "He recovered"- obviously,
after the following sign given.

D. Adam Clarke comments:

"This is the first and only man who was ever informed of the term of his life. And was this a privilege! Surely no. If Hezekiah was attached to life, as he appears to have been, how must his mind be affected to mark the sinking years! He knew he was to die at the end of fifteen years; and how must he feel at the end of every year, when he saw that so much was cut off from life? He must necessarily feel a thousand deaths in fearing one. I believe there would be nothing wanting to complete the misery of men, except the place of torment, were they informed of the precise time in which their lives must terminate. God, in his abundant mercy, has hidden this from their eyes." (Comment on II Kgs. 20:6)

V. Hezekiah's Proof (II Kings 20:8-11)

A. The original "End of Daylight Saving Time!"

B. God could have as easily made the sundial's shadow move either way as He could make the sun stand still.

Joshua 10:12-14

Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. *Is this not written in the Book of Jasher?* So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go *down* for about a whole day. And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel.

C. We are not told the particulars of this, but it did occur. As with all miracles, in it is seen the power of God and confirmation of His word.

Mark 16:20

And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them* and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

John 20:30-31

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Conclusion

The rest of the story -

Hezekiah steps "from frying pan to fire"

2 Kings 20:12-18

At that time Berodach-Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that Hezekiah had been sick. And Hezekiah was attentive to them, and showed them all the house of his treasures--the silver and gold, the spices and precious ointment, and all his armory--all that was found among his treasures. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.

Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?" So Hezekiah said, "They came from a far country, from Babylon." And he said, "What have they seen in your house?" So Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that *is* in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them." Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD: 'Behold, the days are coming when all that *is* in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left,' says the LORD. 'And they shall take away some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.' "

“What have they seen
in your house?”