



The Sun Moves Backward Ten Degrees

(2 Kings 20:1–11)



King Hezekiah was very sick and was dying. The prophet Isaiah went to see Hezekiah and told him the Lord said he was to prepare for his death. So King Hezekiah prayed to God for help.

Isaiah left the king and while he was in the central courtyard, God told him, “Turn back, and tell Hezekiah that the Lord says, ‘I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears: I will heal you. I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria.’”

Hezekiah answered Isaiah, “What shall be the sign that I will be healed?”

And Isaiah said, “The Lord will give you a sign to prove that He will do what He said He’ll do. Would you like the shadow on the sundial to go forward ten degrees or go back ten degrees?”

And Hezekiah answered, “It is easy for the shadow to go forward ten degrees, but the shadow cannot return backward ten degrees.”

And Isaiah the prophet prayed to the LORD: and He brought the shadow ten degrees backward on the sundial.