

## Overthrow of Israel & King Hezekiah

2 Kings 17-20; 2 Chronicles 29-32



The LORD made the sundial shadow move backwards and added 15 years to King Hezekiah's life in answer to his prayer.



## The Story

After King Solomon, the twelve tribes of God's chosen people had many kings. Ten of the tribes lived together as the nation of Israel, and the other two lived as the nation of Judah. The ten tribes of Israel became wicked and disobedient and forgot everything Moses had taught them. Their last king, King Hoshea, did not love God. He killed God's prophets, and his people worshiped idols. Because of this sinful disobedience, the LORD sent Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, to remove the king and all the people of Israel east into the land of Assyria. From there they were scattered through the country and never again returned to their homeland.

Only Judah remained in Canaan, the Promised Land. King Hezekiah was the leader of Judah. The Bible says he was a wonderful king. He loved the Lord God and kept His commandments. He destroyed the idols that were in his country. The believers were very happy to have King Hezekiah, and the LORD was with him. The city of Jerusalem was full of songs and psalms of praise to Jehovah.

When their enemies, the Assyrians, tried to capture Judah, King Hezekiah prayed to the LORD. The LORD spoke to the great prophet, Isaiah. He said, "Tell King Hezekiah that I heard his prayer. The

Assyrians and their new king Sennacherib will not defeat your people. You will be safe."

When Sennacherib and his army came to fight Judah, the LORD sent an angel into the camp of the Assyrians and killed 185,000 of the enemy soldiers.

Soon after this wonderful deliverance, Hezekiah became very sick. Isaiah the prophet went to him and said, "The LORD says, 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.'"

Then Hezekiah prayed to the LORD and cried in sadness.

Isaiah again came to King Hezekiah and said, "The LORD said, 'I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; I will heal you.'"

Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What is the sign that the LORD will heal me?"

Then Isaiah said, "Do you want the LORD to make the shadow on the sundial move forward or backward?"

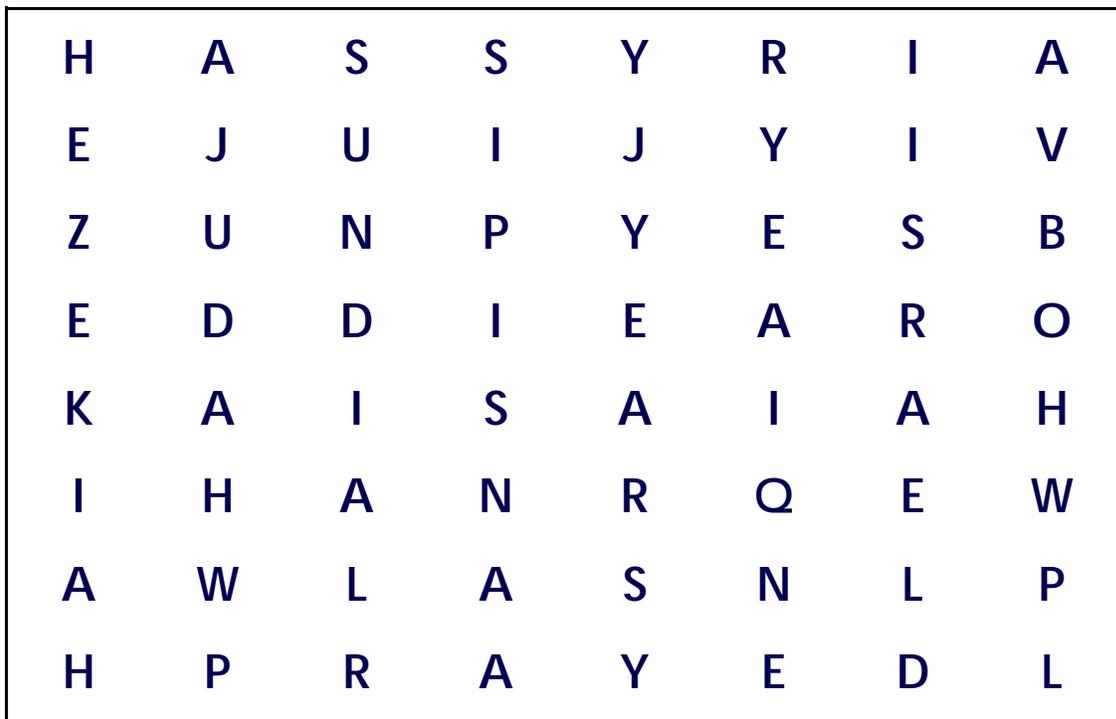
King Hezekiah said, "Have the LORD move it backward." So it happened that the LORD made the sun move backwards and made the day 10 hours longer. The LORD added 15 more years to King Hezekiah's life.

After Hezekiah died, his son Manasseh became the new king of Judah.

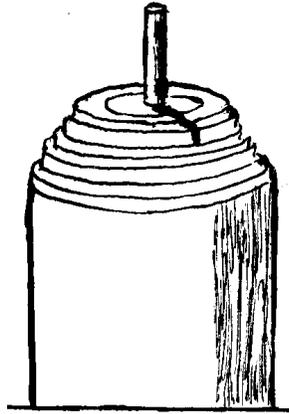
**The LORD has promised to answer the prayers of those who believe in Him.**

**Activity One** - Circle the correct answer from the story and then find the circled words in the WORD SEARCH.

1. King Hoshea and the kingdom of [*Egypt, Israel, Babylon*] worshiped idols and not the true God.
2. King Shalmaneser of [*Assyria, Rome, Judah*] captured Israel and took them away never to return.
3. The kingdom of [*Ephraim, Reuben, Judah*] remained and was not captured.
4. King [*Hezekiah, Shalmaneser, Saul*] was a believer in the true God.
5. He [*laughed, sang, prayed*] to the LORD when he was in trouble.
6. The LORD sent the prophet [*Jeremiah, Isaiah, Nathan*] to the king.
7. The LORD made the shadow on the [*tree, house, sundial*] move backwards.
8. This showed the king he would not die but live 15 more [*days, years, months*].



**Activity Two** - Draw the sun shining on the sundial showing how the LORD made the day longer.



**Hymn** - TLH #326 v. 1, 4

Lord, to Thee I make confession;  
I have sinned and gone astray,  
I have multiplied transgression,  
Chosen for myself my way.  
Led by Thee to see my errors,  
Lord, I tremble at Thy terrors.

Then on Him I cast my burden,  
Sink it in the depths below.  
Let me know Thy gracious pardon,  
Wash me, make me white as snow.  
Let Thy Spirit leave me never;  
Make me only Thine forever.

**Passages** - Write the letters L-O-R-D in the boxes of the first passage.

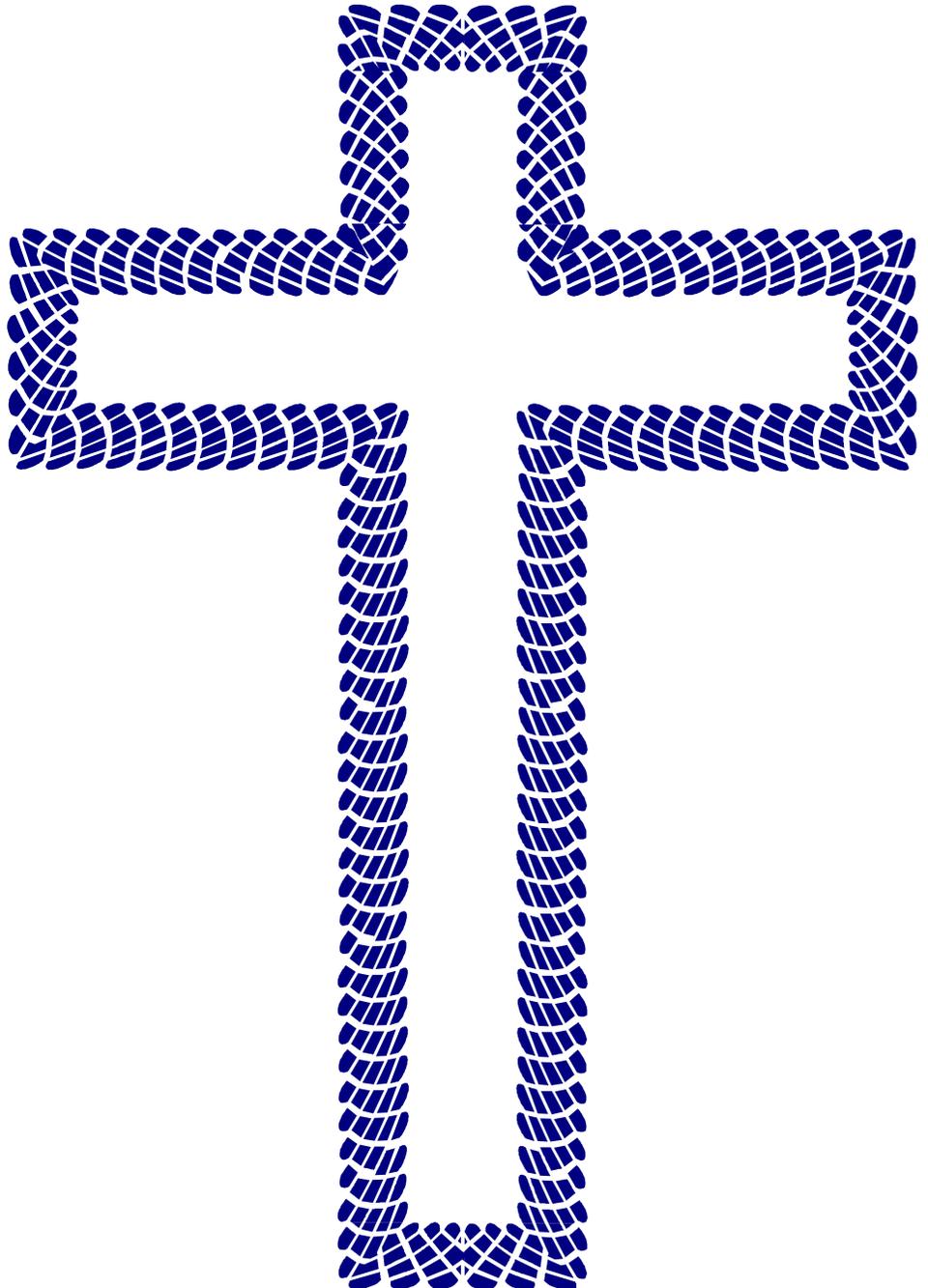
Psalms 37:5 - Commit your way to the

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trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

Copy the following passage onto the cross as a reminder to pray to the LORD.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 -  
Pray without ceasing.



## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,  
You have told us to pray to You and You will hear our prayer. Please help us to love and serve You all our lives. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit into our hearts to make us love and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Amen.