



Vision Matters: Driven

July 29 & 30, 2023

We have more to share. Text **CONNECT** to **888-644-4034**

Pastor Doyle A. Jackson

I. Why does Vision Matter? A Lesson from King Hezekiah...

Isaiah 38:1-6 (NIV) *God has already delivered Jerusalem from Sennacherib* **1** In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the Lord says: **Put your house in order**, because you are going to die; you will not recover."
2 Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, **3** "Remember, Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.
4 Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah: **5** "Go and tell Hezekiah, 'This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will add fifteen years to your life. **6** And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city."

A _____ to live.

He knew how to _____ himself and pray.

He believed in God's _____ power.

Isaiah 39:1-8 (NIV) *Visitors from Babylon* **1** At that time Marduk-Baladan son of Baladan king of Babylon sent Hezekiah letters and a gift, because he had heard of his illness and recovery. **2** Hezekiah received the envoys gladly and showed them what was in his storehouses—the silver, the gold, the spices, the fine olive oil—his entire armory and everything found among his treasures. There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them.

3 Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah and asked, "What did those men say, and where did they come from?"

"From a distant land," Hezekiah replied. "They came to me from Babylon."

4 The prophet asked, "What did they see in your palace?"

"They saw everything in my palace," Hezekiah said. "There is nothing among my treasures that I did not show them."

5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "**Hear the word of the Lord Almighty: 6** The time will surely come when everything in your palace, and all that your predecessors have stored up until this day, will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says the Lord. **7** And some of your descendants, your own flesh and blood who will be born to you, will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon."

8 "The word of the Lord you have spoken is good," Hezekiah replied. For he thought, "There will be peace and security in my lifetime."

He lost his _____ for the kingdom of God and the future.

II. Vision Matters — It Drives us to be Fruitful

Matthew 7:9—20 (NIV) *Sermon on the Mount* **9** "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? **10** Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? **11** If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! **12** So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. **14** But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. **16** By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17** Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. **18** A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

We are called to _____ - do unto others.

Our path is _____ traveled and not easily followed.

There will be intentional _____.

Watch the fruit, there will be _____.

Some observations from over 30 years in ministry:

_____ matters most...

_____ is vital...

This Week's Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

- Sat. July 29, Is 24-28 Sun. July 30, Is 29-30 Mon. July 31, Is. 31-35
- Tue. Aug. 1, Isa. 36-38 Wed. Aug. 2, Isa. 39-41 Thur Aug. 3 Isa. 42-44
- Fri. Aug. 4, Is 45-48 Sat. Aug. 5, Isa. 49-52 Sun. Aug. 6, Isa. 53-57



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