

THE END OF THE ROW  
ISA 38:2

GOOD MORNING FRIENDS OF THE RADIO AUDIENCE. AS WE HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE FIRST WEEK OF THE NEW YEAR WE GREET YOU IN THE NAME ~~MY~~ OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER. WILL EACH OF YOU LISTEN! IN BOW YOUR HEADS WHILE WE LIFT OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER TO GOD ASKING HIS BLESSINGS UPON THIS BROADCAST. LET US PRAY...

*Hearts* GRACIOUS LORD IN WHOM WE LIVE, MOVE, AND HAVE OUR BEING WE LIFT OUR HEARTS TO THEE. IN THY PRESENCE IS FULLNESS OF JOY. BREAK THE SPELL OF THAT WHICH BLINDS OUR MINDS. PURIFY OUR THAT WE MAY SEE THEE. RENEW OUR INWARD LIFE BY THE POWER OF THE UNSEEN AND ETERNAL. VISIT OUR SPIRITS JUST NOW AND WITNESS WITH THEM THAT WE ARE THY CHILDREN...AMEN.

WE ARE READING FOR OUR LESSON THIS MORNING THE FIRST EIGHT VERSES OF THE THIRTY EIGHT'S CHAPTER OF ISAAH.

WE ARE TALKING TO YOU THIS MORNING ON THE SUBJECT " THE END OF THE ROW."

IN THE LESSON READ ~~THIS MORNING~~ WE HAVE THIS PICTURE: HEZEKIAH WAS SICK UNTO DEATH. HE WAS A VERY GOOD MAN BUT GOOD PEOPLE GET SICK, FOR DISEASE IS NO RESPECTOR OF PERSONS. THE NAME HEZEKIAH MEANS "STRONG IN THE LORD". WE ALL ADMIRE STRENGTH. IT IS FINE TO CARE FOR OUR BODIES AND MINDS THAT IN THOSE PARTS WE MAY BE STRONG. BUT THE STRENGTH WE SHOULD MAJOR IN IS THE STRENGTH OF SPIRIT. THAT IS BE STRONG IN THE LORD. YOU MAY BE WEAK IN BODY AND YET ANY ONE MAY BE STRONG IN THE INNER MAN.

ISAAH WAS THE OLD MANS PASTOR SO TO SPEAK. AS HE MADE THIS PASTORAL CALL HE TOLD HEZEKIAH THAT THE LORD SAID "PUT YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER FOR YOU ARE GING TO DIE AND NOT LIVE"

IF WE WERE TO DESCRIBE THE CONDITION OF THIS OLD SICK MAN WE WOULD LIKELY SAY THAT HE HAD COME TO THE END OF HIS JOURNEY. BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT HE HAD JUST COME TO THE END OF THE ROW. THE END OF THE ROW DOES NOT MEAN DEATH. YOU WILL HEAR PEOPLE SAY " I AM AT MY ROWS END" MEANING THAT THEIR LIFE'S JOURNEY IS ABOUT OVER.

THERE IS AN OLD EXPRESSION LIKE THIS: " AND HE TURNED HIS FACE TO THE WALL" MEANING THAT HE DIED. THIS EXPRESSION IS OUR TEXT TO DAY. HEZEKIAH, IT SEEMS WAS LYING IN THE CORNER OF HIS ROOM SO EITHER WAY HE TURNED HIS HEAD HE WOULD FACE THE WALL. BUT INSTEAD OF DYING HE PRAYED THE FOLLOWING PRAYER:

OH LORD REMEMBER THAT I WALKED IN TRUTH.. THAT I WALKED WITH A PERFECT HEART... THAT I DID THAT WHICH WAS RIGHT IN THY SIGHT THE AMEN OF HIS PRAYER WAS TEARS.

WHILE HE WAS PRAYING ISAIAH WAS LEAVING THE ROOM. WHEN HE GOT TO THE DOOR THE LORD SAID TO HIM GO BACK TO THE MAN. THE PRAYER OF A GOOD MAN WAS KNOCKING AT HEAVEN'S DOOR.. THE TEARS OF A GOOD MAN WERE SEEN BY GOD. IT IS HARD TO PLACE AN ESTIMATE AS TO THE POWER OF A PRAYER THAT ENDS WITH TEARS. GOD SAID TO ISAIAH THAT HE COULD NOW CHANGE HIS MESSAGE TO THE PRAYING SAINT, FROM THE DEATH SENTENCE TO ONE OF LIFE. AND HERE IT IS: " THUS SAITH THE LORD, THE GOD OF DAVID THY FATHER, I HAVE HEARD THY PRAYER, I HAVE SEEN THY TEARS, AND BEHOLD I WILL ADD TO THY DAYS FIFTEEN YEARS." SO HEZEKIAH DID NOT COME TO DEATH BUT TO THE END OF THE ROW.

ANY OF YOU WHO HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE IN FARMING KNOW THAT WHEN YOU COME TO THE END OF THE ROW YOU HAVE NOT FINISHED YOUR CROP. YOU PAUSE A MOMENT AND START A NEW ROW. YOU PAUSE LONG ENOUGH TO GET YOUR BREATH, GO OUT AND GET A DRINK OF WATER FROM THE OLD WATER JUG... YOU NOTICE I SAID 'WATER( JUG.

USUALLY YOU LOOK DOWN THE ROW YOU HAVE JUST WORKED TO SEE IF YOU HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB. IF IT DOES NOT LOOK GOOD YOU YOU LIKELY SAY WELL I <sup>will</sup> DO THE NEXT ONE BETTER.

ALL OF THIS IS VERY MUCH LIKE THE END OF THE YEAR. WE PAUSE TO REFRESH OUR SPIRITS, MAKE RESOLUTIONS. IF LAST YEAR'S WORK DOES NOT LOOK GOOD WE RESOLVE THUS AND SO. IN OTHER WORDS THE THE END OF THE YEAR IS JUST A LITTLE INTERRUPTION

WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR THESE INTERRUPTIONS IN LIFE.. SUCH AS THE NIGHT, WHICH COME BETWEEN A DAY MISpent AND ONE THAT MAY BE IMPROVED... SO WITH THE NEW YEAR. WE HAVE A PAUSE IN WHICH WE CAN REVIEW THE PAST YEAR AND IF WE MADE MISTAKES WE WILL TRY TO CORRECT THEM

I DO NOT WANT TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOU THIS MORNING WITHOUT

ANOTHER WORD ABOUT THE END OF THE ROW. AS YOU PLOW, YOUR PLOW MAY RUN SMOOTHLY AND YOU DO A GOOD JOB. ON THE OTHER HAND IT MAY TAKE THE GROUND A WHILE AND THUS COME OUT NOT BREAKING THE GROUND WELL FROM END TO END. WHEN THIS HAPPENS THE ROW WILL BE SKIPPY. THE MORAL IS THAT IF WE WANT TO DO A WORK THIS YEAR THAT WILL PLEASE GOD A YEAR FROM NOW WE MUST BE CAREFUL TO DO EVERY DAY'S WORK WELL.

TO RUN A GOOD FURROW YOU MUST NEEDS CLEAN YOUR PLOW POINT AT THE END OF THE ROW. IT MAY HAVE ON IT POISONOUS VINES, BRIARS, OR JUST TOO MUCH GRASS.

TO BRING THIS OVER INTO THE SPIRITUAL REIM IT MEANS THAT AT THE FIRST OF THE NEW YEAR WE SHOULD CLEAN OFF OF OUR PLOW THE THE VINES OF POISONOUS INFLUENCE, IN HOME OR COMMUNITY, CLEAN OFF THE BRIARS OF CUTTING WORDS THAT HAVE CUT PEOPLE TO THE HEART, AND DO AWAY WITH THE MASS OF GRASS SUCH AS TOO MANY WORTHLESS THINGS THAT HAVE COME BETWEEN US AND EFFECTIVE WORK FOR GOD.

*and*  
~~ONE~~ I SAW THE PICTURE OF THE SHIP GEORGE WASHINGTON. UNDER NEATHE WERE THESE WORDS "OUTWARD BOUND, JESUS SAVIOR PILOT ME." NOW WE ARE "OUTWARD BOUND INTO 1962 AND IT WOULD BE HARD TO FIND A BETTER PRAYER THAN "JESUS SAVIOR PILOT ME."

LET US PRAY

OH GOD OUR FATHER WE THANK THEE TO DAY FOR THIS RADIO STATION OVER WHICH WE MAY TALK TO THY CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT ABLE TO ~~go~~ THE CHURCH SERVICES. WE THANK THEE FOR ALL THE PAST BLESSINGS WE SHARED DURING 1961. WE HUMBLY ASK THEE TO BLESS ALL THE SICK AND DISTRESSED WHEREVER FOUND. WE WANT TO DO OUR PART IN THE VARIOUS CAUSES BEING USED TO TO HELP THOSE THAT ARE ILL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.... IN THY BLESSED NAME WE PRAY.

AMEN.

