

THE END OF THE ROW

Isa 38:2

Phil 3:17 + 2 King 20

THE SCENE.....Hezekiah was sick unto death. He was a good man but good people get sick. His name means, "Strong in the Lord." That is lots better than being strong in many other phases of life that might be mentioned. Isa was his pastor and went to call on him and said, "The Lord says for you to put your house in order for you are going to die and not live."

We would say that he had come to the end of his journey but really he had just come to the end of the row. As we will see the end of the row does not mean death. You will hear people say "I am at my row's end," but this does not mean they are dead.

Hezekiah was lying in the corner of his room. Either way he turned his face would be to the wall. When he had heard the message that he was to die he began to pray...after turning his face to the wall. Betty Lou Martberry - Hag "yes" Betty "no"

We might notice the contents of that prayer:

"Oh Lord remember.....etc."

- a. I walked in truth
- b. I walked with perfect heart
- c. I did that which was good in thy sight
- d. The "Amen" was tears. See Tears.

The preacher walked out but before he got to the door God told him to go back...A good mans prayer was knocking at heaven's door...a good mans tears were seen of God our loving Father. God told Isa to tell Hez. that He was not going to die but that he would live fifteen more years...he was the only person I know of whom God told how long he would live...He did not come to death but to the end of the row...God said, "I am letting you live because I have heard thy prayer and have seen thy tears"

You who have farmed know that when you come to the end of the row it does not mean that you have finished your crop but you pause a moment and start another row. You stop long enough some times to refresh yourself with a drink of water, get a long breath. Maybe you stop and look back down the furrow just plowed or the row just hoed to see if it looks all right. If it does not then you try to improve the next one...It is just

a little interruption at which time we may review a bit and plan a little...We should be grateful for interruptions....

1. The night comes between a day maybe mispent and one that we may improve.
2. The hills rest the eyes from the level valley.
3. The end of the year is an interruption that lies between a year maybe misspent or well spent and a year that may be improved....just the end of the row.

WHAT OF THE ROW?

- a. A plow may run smoothly and do a good job...
- b. It may slide carelessly along and do ineffective work
- c. May hit a stump and kick back

AT THE END OF THE ROW:

- a. Clean off poison vines...if we have had poison influences in our lives let's clean them off at the end of the row..
- b. Some times it is briars around the plow....cutting words
- c. Grass...hindrances to progress in the church.

The row is the year...lets clean off hate, poison, cutting words

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy" P.S. 126:5

"with tears Lord I believe" Mark 9:24

"I ceased not to weep everyone with tears" Acts 20:31

It is good to get so interested some times to shed a tear —

