

Family Focus

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

IN TIMES LIKE THESE.....



“..... Hezekiah was sick and near death. Isaiah the prophet went to him and said, The Lord says, ‘Set your house in order, for you shall die; you will not recover.’ Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed to the Lord, ‘Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight.’ And he wept bitterly (2 Kings 20:1-11).”

“And the Lord struck the child that Uriah’s wife bore to David, and it became ill. David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and while David fasted he went in and lay all night on the ground. So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them. Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died (2 Samuel 12:15-23).”

“And there was a certain royal official [in Herod’s court at Capernaum] whose son was sick. When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea, he went to him [at Cana] and begged Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Jesus told him, ‘Unless you people see signs and wonders you will by no means believe.’ The official said, ‘Sir, come down before my child dies.’ Jesus told him to ‘Go your way; your son will live.’ So the man, believing [what] Jesus said, went away. And as he was going, his servants met him and told him his son lived.” [Note: Jesus may have known the child would not die or He healed the son. Either way the official and his household believed] (John 4:46-53).”

“Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother [Lazarus] would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You’. Then Mary came to where Jesus was and fell down at His feet said, ‘Lord, if you had been here my brother would not died (John 11:21, 22-32, 33).’”



These are but a few biblical examples of individuals who were in dire need of Divine help. It’s in unfortunate times like these that we seek God. With a closer study of the situations, you will find certain elements prevalent in all: 1) there was nothing they could do about what was happening, or going to happen; 2) their good deeds were not going to help; 3) the ones pleading for God’s help believed in God’s healing power; 4) prayer is established by God’s sovereignty; 5) divine healing does not necessarily exclude the use of known remedies; 6) God is merciful.

In times of dire situations, who do you turn to? If to God, do you pray with little belief, unwilling to accept God’s will in the outcome? Is the sin in your life preventing you from believing in God’s help? Do you need proof as Hezekiah did?

“Precious Lord Take My Hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the storm,
through the night lead me on to the light;
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.”



“The Lord gave me these words and melody. He also healed my spirit. I learned that when we are in our deepest grief, when we feel farthest from God, this is when He is closest, when we are most open to His restoring power. And so I go on living for God willingly and joyfully, until that day comes when He will take me and gently lead me home - Thomas Andrew Dorsey, African-American, jazz pianist, vocalist, and Gospel song writer, in response to the death of his wife and newborn son while he was the featured soloist at a large revival meeting in St Louis.