2 Kings 20
King James Version (KJV)

(Hezekiah's illness, also recorded in Isaiah-38)

20 In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live. (14th year of Hezekiah's 29 year reign. This happened before the fall of Senachareb in the previous chapter)

2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying, (Hezekiah was a good and righteous king who loved God)

3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. (Hezekiah destroyed all the high places to false gods and re-opened Yahoveh's temple after decades of it being closed. He held a great Passover in the temple for all of Judah. Also there is no heir to the throne should Hezekiah die)

4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. (Psalms-120-134 (These have been called the Psalms of degrees. Ten of these Psalms were written by Hezekiah during these 15 years. The other 4 were written by David and 1 by Solomon, many years before)

7 And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered. (Possibly had an inflammation, or an infection; God healed him, not the figs)

8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day? (Similar to Gideon and his fleece; looking for a sign from God)

9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that
the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go
forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees? (The sun's shadow on
the sundial; should it go forwards or backwards?)

10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down
ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the
shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial
of Ahaz.

12 At that time Berodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon,
sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that
Hezekiah had been sick. (This is the first contact to Judah by Babylon)

13 And Hezekiah hearkened unto them, and shewed them all the house
of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the
precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was
found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his
dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not. (Huge mistake on
Hezekiah's part. This set up the invasion of Judah by Babylon many
years later)

14 Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto
him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee?
And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country, even from
Babylon.

15 And he said, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah
answered, All the things that are in mine house have they seen: there
is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.
2Chronicles-32:30-31 (God was testing Hezekiah; Hezekiah failed. His
pride in himself led him to stupidity)

16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD.

17 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which
thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into
Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD. (Nebuchadnezzar will
take it all – 200 years later)

18 And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget,
shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the

king of Babylon. (Refers to all the sons of Judah, not just Hezekiah's sons)

19 Then said Hezekiah unto Isaiah, Good is the word of the LORD which thou hast spoken. And he said, Is it not good, if peace and truth be in my days? (Selfish loser – it's good if it happens after I'm gone; just as selfish and foolish as our leaders today)

20 And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? 2Chronicles- 29-32

21 And Hezekiah slept with his fathers: and Manasseh his son reigned in his stead. (Manasseh- one of the worst kings of Judah)