

Isaiah 38:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I said, I shall not see the LORD, even the LORD, in the land of the living: I shall behold man no more with the inhabitants of the world.

Analysis

The grief "I shall not see the LORD" expresses deepest loss—death means separation from conscious worship and God's presence. "Even the LORD, in the land of the living" emphasizes that relationship with God belongs to earthly life in Old Testament understanding. The parallel "I shall behold man no more" adds relational loss—community and fellowship end at death. This pre-resurrection perspective makes death genuinely tragic, unlike New Testament confidence of presence with Christ (Philippians 1:23).

Historical Context

Before Christ's resurrection, the afterlife remained shadowy. Old Testament saints trusted God but lacked clear revelation of resurrection hope and eternal life.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's resurrection transform our view of death from Hezekiah's perspective?
2. What does Hezekiah's grief teach about the value of worship and community?
3. How should we balance proper grief over death with resurrection hope?

Interlinear Text

אָמַרְתִּי לֹא אֶרְאֶה יְהוָה יְהוָה בְּאֶרֶץ
I said H3808 **I shall not see** **even the LORD** **even the LORD** **in the land**
H559 H7200 H3050 H3050 H776

הַחַיִּים לֹא אֶבֶּיט אִישׁ עַד עַם
of the living H3808 **I shall behold** **man** H5750 H5973
H2416 H5027 H120

יֹשְׁבֵי קִדְלִי:
no more with the inhabitants **of the world**
H3427 H2309

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 27:13 (References Lord): I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.