

# Isaiah 38:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent: I have cut off like a weaver my life: he will cut me off with pining sickness: from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me.

## Analysis

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The metaphor "Mine age is departed, and is removed from me as a shepherd's tent" depicts life's fragility—tents easily fold and move. The weaving imagery "I have cut off like a weaver my life" shows life as a tapestry prematurely severed from the loom. "He will cut me off from the pining loom" uses divine passive—God controls life and death. The phrase "from day even to night wilt thou make an end of me" expresses how quickly death can come. These vivid metaphors emphasize life's brevity and divine sovereignty over its duration.

## Historical Context

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Shepherds lived in temporary tents, easily packed and moved. Weaving was common domestic activity, making the metaphor accessible to all listeners.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How do life's fragility and brevity teach us to number our days wisely?
2. What does acknowledging God's sovereignty over life's duration mean for our daily living?
3. How should awareness that each day is a gift affect our priorities and gratitude?

## Interlinear Text

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|                |               |                |                       |                    |                         |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| דֹּרִי י       | נָסַע         | וְנִגְלָה      | מִנִּי י              | כָּאֵלֶּה          | רָעָה י                 |
| Mine age       | is departed   | and is removed | H4480                 | tent               | from me as a shepherd's |
| H1755          | H5265         | H1540          |                       | H168               | H7473                   |
| קָטַעְתִּי     | כְּאֶרֶג      | חַיִּי         | מִדֹּלָה              | וְיִבְצָעָה נִי    |                         |
| I have cut off | like a weaver | my life        | with pining sickness  | he will cut me off |                         |
| H7088          | H707          | H2416          | H1803                 | H1214              |                         |
| מִיּוֹם        | עַד           | לַיְלָה        | תַּשְׁלִימֵנִי:       |                    |                         |
| from day       | H5704         | even to night  | wilt thou make an end |                    |                         |
| H3117          |               | H3915          | H7999                 |                    |                         |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 1:12** (Parallel theme): And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

**Psalms 73:14** (Parallel theme): For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.

**2 Corinthians 5:1** (Parallel theme): For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.