

# Isaiah 38:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

What shall I say? he hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it: I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul.

## Analysis

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The question "What shall I say?" acknowledges inability to adequately respond to God's intervention. "He hath both spoken unto me, and himself hath done it" recognizes God's promise and its fulfillment—word and deed align perfectly. The resolution "I shall go softly all my years in the bitterness of my soul" describes humble, chastened living. "Go softly" (Hebrew dadah) suggests careful, reverent walking. This demonstrates that deliverance produces ongoing humility, not presumption. The phrase "bitterness of my soul" suggests the suffering left a permanent mark.

## Historical Context

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Near-death experiences often produced lasting changes in perspective and behavior. Hezekiah's suffering taught lessons that would shape his remaining years.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does experiencing God's deliverance produce ongoing humility and reverence?
2. What does it mean to "go softly" through life after dramatic intervention?
3. How can suffering's "bitterness" become a teacher that improves our walk with God?

## Interlinear Text

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מָה	אֲדַבֵּר	וְאָמַר	לִי	וְהָוָא	
H4100	What shall I say	he hath both spoken	H0	H1931	
	H1696	H559			
	עָשָׂה	אֲדַבֵּר	כָּל	שְׁנוֹתַי	עַל
	unto me and himself hath done	it I shall go softly	H3605	all my years	H5921
	H6213	H1718		H8141	
	בְּרִיחַ	נַפְשִׁי			
	in the bitterness	of my soul			
	H4751	H5315			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 7:11** (Parallel theme): Therefore I will not refrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

**1 Kings 21:27** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly.

**Job 10:1** (Parallel theme): My soul is weary of my life; I will leave my complaint upon myself; I will speak in the bitterness of my soul.