

Isaiah 38:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.

Analysis

The contrast "The living, the living, he shall praise thee" emphasizes that worship is the privilege and responsibility of those alive. "As I do this day" makes it personal and immediate—Hezekiah fulfills this duty through his testimony. "The father to the children shall make known thy truth" establishes intergenerational responsibility—those who experience God's faithfulness must teach the next generation. This demonstrates that testimony isn't optional but obligatory—experiencing deliverance creates duty to declare it.

Historical Context

Intergenerational faith transmission was central to Israelite identity (Deuteronomy 6:7). Parents teaching children God's works preserved covenant faith across generations.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What responsibility do those who experience God's deliverance have to testify?
2. How does intergenerational faith transmission preserve the church across time?
3. What stories of God's faithfulness do you need to share with the next generation?

Interlinear Text

ה' י	ה' י	הוא	יודך	כמו וני	הי' ום
The living	The living	H1931	he shall praise	H3644	thee as I do this day
H2416	H2416		H3034		H3117
אב	לבנ' ים	יוד יע	אל	אמתך:	
the father	to the children	shall make known	H413	thy truth	
H1	H1121	H3045		H571	

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 6:7 (Resurrection): And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Psalms 119:175 (Resurrection): Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.

Deuteronomy 4:9 (Parallel theme): Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

Psalms 118:17 (Parallel theme): I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

Psalms 145:4 (Resurrection): One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

Psalms 146:2 (Resurrection): While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.

Genesis 18:19 (Parallel theme): For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Deuteronomy 11:19 (Resurrection): And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Joel 1:3 (Parallel theme): Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 (Parallel theme): Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.