

# Sifted for Service

## [2 Chronicles 32:1-31](#)

In one way or another, we are all being sifted by the circumstances that God allows to come our way. Sifting is never comfortable, because it exposes the chaff in our lives. And every bit of chaff is destined for unquenchable fire. The Lord will go to any lengths to uncover this debris and consume it. We rarely know where it is lurking until God exposes it and then gives us the opportunity to deal with it.

King Hezekiah was given such a chance at the pinnacle of his astonishing career. He had just witnessed the Lord bringing about a spectacular victory over Sennacherib and the Assyrian hosts. After that, God healed him from a mortal illness, and then Hezekiah was also offered a supernatural sign that actually drove the shadow 10 steps backward on the sundial. (See [Isaiah 38:8](#).)

### [Isaiah 38:8 \(NASB\)](#)

**<sup>8</sup>“Behold, I will cause the shadow on the stairway, which has gone down with the sun on the stairway of Ahaz, to go back ten steps.” So the sun’s *shadow* went back ten steps on the stairway on which it had gone down.”**

On the heels of these miracles, emissaries from Babylon approached him with flattery. Would Hezekiah resist giving in to pride, or was he too consumed with his own importance? The sacred record reads, “**Even in the matter of the envoys of the rulers of Babylon, who sent to him to inquire of the wonder that had happened in the land, God left him *alone only* to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart”** ([2 Chronicles 32:31 NASB](#)). As a result of this test, the chaff of self-importance was revealed.

Do you ever feel abandoned by God? Worse still, do you sometimes feel as if you are being sifted by Satan? Yes, the enemy sifts, but remember that Jesus Christ is praying for you.

Furthermore, the winnowing fork is in *His* hand, so not a hair of your head will perish ([Luke 3:17](#); [Luke 21:18](#)).

### [Luke 3:17 \(NASB\)](#)

**<sup>17</sup>“His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”**

### [Luke 21:18 \(NASB\)](#)

**<sup>18</sup>“Yet not a hair of your head will perish.”**