

## Solomon and the Temple of God

March 1, 2015

A brief history between David and Solomon:

**After Solomon built the temple he offered up a long prayer to the Lord** - *When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, when they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin because You afflict them, then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance.*

**2 Chronicles 6:26-27**

**God answered his prayer** - *Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

**2 Chronicles 7:12-14**

This all came after Solomon built the temple! Today you and I are God's **temple**. Know that, as believers, He resides in us.

*God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.* **Acts 17:24**

God dwells in us.

*To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.* **Colossians 1:27**

*But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.* **1 Corinthians 6:17-20**

You and I are God's temple. The priest **no longer** enters the Holy of Holies to make a sacrifice for our sins, because Jesus has already been sacrificed.

What does God desire for His Temple to do? On a broad and far reaching scale, to **LOVE GOD** with all we have and to **LOVE OTHERS!** (Matthew 22:37)

How are we doing at loving God and loving others?

As God's temple we are to allow Christ to work in us. The change doesn't happen from the outside, but from the **inside!** In other words, revival is not needed for the **unbeliever**.

*For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?* **1 Peter 4:17**

As God's temple I think we would all agree that we are in need of a revival! While Solomon's answer to his prayer in 2 Chronicles 7 was for Israel, it is also for God's Church.

**Revival is for the Church, not for the lost. When revival happens in God's people, then the world will know of Christ. Revival is taking that which was once alive and vibrant and reviving it! Only God can do this.**

**There are four keys to revival found in God's answer to Solomon's prayer. This morning we will look at prayer and turning (repent). Tonight we will unpack what humble and seek means .**

### **Prayer**

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.* **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

We are to preach, teach, love, disciple, and obey, but we are dependent on God to do what only He can and we can't.

*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.* **John 14:6**

Pray

Self

**Family**

**Lost**

**Sin in my life**

God's plan

### **Turn (Repent)**

*For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.* **2 Corinthians 7:10**

**Repent**- to turn, to change direction.

Repentance not a feeling, regret, sorrow or even an emotion! Those things may accompany repentance, but repentance is an **action**. It means to literally to do an about face, turn from your sin and follow Jesus. God does this in us; He shows us our sin and our need for Him.

"Prayer without repentance is a religious farce." (Adrian Rogers)

Not just obvious sin, but our blind spots and anything we put ahead of our Lord.

This morning, would you seek the Lord in prayer like never before? Would you turn (repent) from your sin? Would you ask that revival begin and that it start with you?

*And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.*

**Revelation 21:3**

We are God's temple; Christ is in us. As God's temple we need to be in a constant state of prayer and repentance.

**Always remember, in praying and repenting, the grace of God in Jesus!**