

A Prayer for Our Nation

Series: In God We Trust

July 5, 2015

INTRODUCTION

During the time of the events recorded in 2 Chronicles 7, the nation of Israel was enjoying a time of great peace and prosperity like never before. Some scholars say that it was the Golden Age in Israel's history. Politically, they were at peace with their enemies. Economically, they were the wealthiest they have ever been. Yet, it is within this context of great peace, prosperity and blessings that God gives a stern warning and a promise to His people. Today, we will be examining both the warning and the promise to help shed some insight into some of the issues and events that are currently happening on in our nation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How would you describe the current economic, political and spiritual state of our nation today? What are some of the issues and areas of debate that have interested you the most?
2. Read 2 Chronicles 7:11-12. Summarize in your own words what God is saying to Solomon. What impression do you have in regards to the state of Israel as a nation?
3. Read 2 Chronicles 7:13. What is God saying in this verse? Does it bother you that He may be the *cause* of what we perceive to be bad things in this world? Why or why not?
4. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. Here in this verse God gives His people a blueprint on what they needed to do in order to faithfully endure through times of discipline and correction. What does God specifically call us to do?
5. In the second half of 2 Chronicles 7:14, God gives a promise, that if we would humble ourselves, pray and repent He would hear from heaven, forgive our sins and heal our land. In light of what we observe in our nation, do you think that this is relevant for us? Why or why not?

CONCLUSION

What we need now more than ever are some prayer-ers, people who are willing to stand in the gap, get down on our knees and pray for our nation, our leaders and our decision-makers. In order for us to see and expect real change in our nation, we first need to humble ourselves, pray and seek His face, and turn from our wicked ways. The promise that God gives to us when we do these things is that He will listen, forgive and heal our land. Let us be the pray-ers that God desires for us to be.

"14 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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." – 2 Chronicles 7:14