



Jason Smith – Praying Church “If My People”

Text: 2 Chronicles 7:14

“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.”

Introduction

- Solomon has just completed the temple, and God responds with a covenant promise.
- The context: God was speaking to Israel, but the principle applies to the church today.
- This leads us to the reality that God’s healing, forgiveness, and blessing are conditional on His people’s response.

1. The People God Addresses

- ***“If my people, who are called by my name”***
 - Not the world, not the nations, but God’s own people.
 - Today: the church (1 Peter 2:9 — “a chosen generation... His own special people”).
 - Revival does not start in government or culture—it starts in the home and in God’s house.

2. The Posture God Requires

- ***“Will humble themselves”***

- Humility acknowledges our need of God (James 4:6 — God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble).
- Humility breaks the spirit of pride and independence.
- Example: Daniel praying for his nation, confessing sins he didn’t even commit (Daniel 9:3-5).

3. The Prayer God Desires

- ***“And pray and seek my face”***

- Not just reciting words—earnestly seeking His presence.
- Seeking His face = relationship, not just His hand of blessing.
- Jeremiah 29:13 — “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

4. The Purity God Demands

- ***“And turn from their wicked ways”***

- Repentance is more than sorrow—it’s a change of direction.
- Isaiah 55:7 — “Let the wicked forsake their ways... let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy.”
- The church cannot expect national healing without personal holiness.

5. The Promise God Gives

- ***“Then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.”***

- God promises three things:

1. Hearing — our prayers reach heaven.
2. Forgiving — sins are cleansed, relationship restored.
3. Healing — God brings restoration, revival, and renewal.

Application

- Personal: Do I walk in humility, prayer, and repentance?
- Church-wide: Is our congregation crying out for revival?
- National: Healing in America (or any nation) begins with the church fulfilling this verse.

Conclusion

- The key word: **“If.”** God’s promises are conditional.
- Revival is not a mystery—it is the result of God’s people meeting God’s conditions.
- Corporate prayer, confession, and commitment.

Closing Scripture

- Psalm 85:6 — ***“Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?”***