II Chronicles 5-7 – 30 October 2025 "Doorway To Blessing"

Introduction

- *In II Chr 1-3, we began with Solomon's reign & his desire "To Work God's Will" in building the Temple
- *Today we see the Temple ready for its dedication
- *Though God is always the initiator of all good things in life, we must respond to His call to experience them
- *Once we respond in His direction, He can them bring blessing, prosperity & a genuine seems of Himself working thru us

Today, we look at 3 choices we should make that lead to God's blessing in our life

Solomon will role-model these things for us in the dedication of the Temple & the nation to God

1st Choice we should make: Install the <u>physical</u> centerpiece of a relationship w/ God (Chap 5:1-10)

Intro – Solomon here puts the final touches on the temple by installing the centerpiece, the Ark

We too should make physical changes to center our life on serving Jesus Christ

Read Vs 5:1-5

- 1. Notice the progression; all the new items come in & then they assemble everyone to bring the ark
- 2. The ark is the centerpiece of it all
 - a. The place of once-a-year atonement
 - b. Foreshadowing Christ's once forever atonement

Read Vs 6-10

- 1. The poles could be seen in the Holy Place as they were pulling them out for storage
- 2. Previously there was also the golden pot of manna & Aaron's rod that budded
 - a. What happened to them is unknown
 - b. Maybe Philistines took them or they were broken when the ark fell while moving it

God responses to this <u>physical</u> choice by coming with <u>His presence</u> (Chap 5:11-6:11)

Read Vs 5:11-14

- 1. This shows God's acceptance of this temple
 - a. It wasn't acceptable b/c Solomon patterned it on real one in heaven (Heb 8:5). He didn't
 - b. It's acceptable b/c of II Chr 6:8 (David)
- 2. Cloud has always modeled the very presence & glory of God Himself demonstrates His approval

Read Vs 1-2

- 1. Solomon reminds the people that the Lord's throne is surrounded by clouds & thick darkness representing the glory of the Lord (Psm 97)
 - a. Solomon rightly saw this as God's favor
 - b. This Temple is the earthly pic of the heavenly throne room

Read Vs 3-9

- 1. Our goals should not be based around getting stuff but around getting relationships
- 2. Turn to Luk 12:16-21 vs Read Dan 12:3

Read Vs 10-11

- 1. The Lord made a promise & now He's kept it
- 2. When God takes action, boast of it
- 3. Remind people how good & faithful God is, it's exciting

2nd Choice we should make: Install the <u>mental</u> centerpiece of a relationship w/ God (Chap 6:12-42)

Intro – Solomon here role-models a verbal mental commitment to serve God

We too should make mental changes to center our life on serving Jesus Christ

Read Vs 6:12-17

1. Lord You have kept Your Word & I pray that You keep keeping Your Word

Read Vs 18-21

- 1. Lord hear the prayers of Your people that come from this place & the prayers prayed toward here
 - a. Just what Daniel did in Chap 6

Read Vs 22-23

1. Lord bring justice from this place

Read Vs 24-25

1. Lord forgive us when we need forgiveness

Read Vs 26-27

- 1. Lord when You withhold Your blessings b/c of sin & we repent, forgive, teach & restore blessing
- 2. Let the afflictions teach us

Read Vs 28-31

1. Lord whatever affliction comes, forgive the humble that understand their sin & need of You

Read Vs 32-33

1. Lord may the Gentiles receive from You for Your glory

Read Vs 34-39

1. Lord deal compassionately with Israel as we face our enemies from outside the land

- 2. Notice, there are none that are sinless (vs 36)
- 3. There's an expectation that if there's sin, there will be repentance & forsaking of sin (vs 38)

Read Vs 40-42

1. Lord do all this b/c of Your great love for us

God responses to this <u>mental</u> choice by coming with <u>His power</u> (Chap 7:1-3)

Read Vs 7:1-3

- 1. Fire from heaven & the cloudy presence
 - a. Both were given by God during wanderings
- 2. Showing His presence, provision & protection

3rd Choice we should make: Install the <u>spiritual</u> centerpiece of a relationship w/ God (Chap 7:4-10)

Intro – Solomon here role-models doing true spiritual sacrifice, work and worship for the Lord

We too should make spiritual changes to center our life on serving Jesus Christ

Read Vs 7:4-7

- 1. W/o the shedding of blood there's no remission
 - a. Sacrifice shows their faith in dedicating themselves to God
- 2. They do many Burnt, Meal & Peace Offerings
 - a. No Sin or Trespass Offerings
 - b. B, M, & P show dedication, worship & fellowship

Read Vs 8-10

- 1. 7 days for this dedication of the Temple & 7 days for Feast of tabernacles
- 2. They were glad for how faithful God had been
 - a. If joy depends on how good you'll be...it's a rollercoaster
 - b. If joy depends on how good God will be, then we're FULL of delight!

God responses to this <u>spiritual</u> choice by coming with <u>His purpose</u> (Chap 7:11-22)

Read Vs 7:11-12

1. I've heard, I've hallowed & I will help

- 2. This is the starting point w/ God, He wants to bless and support us
- 3. He makes Himself available to all that ask Read Vs 13-16
 - 1. If, then statements
 - a. Relationship w/ God is based on His grace
 - b. But we can withhold His blessing on us by disobedience
 - 2. If there are environmental calamities & you turn to God, He will listen and answer
- 3. Now there's a focal point for their faith Temple Read Vs 17-20
 - 1. David was promised his throne will be forever
 - a. Now Solomon is offered the same if there's obedience...but there won't be obedience
 - b. The people & temple would be cast out for disobedience, but not God's promise of David's throne forever

Read Vs 21-22

- 1. Disobedience to God is to serve other gods
 - a. Which are no gods at all
- 2. This isn't about relationship, it's about the blessing of fellowship and prospering

Conclusion

So as Israel & Solomon began to respond to God's call on them, God blessed them

- 1. Choose to install the physical centerpiece
 - a. Make material changes in environment
 - b. God responds w/ His presence
- 2. Choose to install the mental centerpiece
 - a. Change our thoughts & beliefs
 - b. God responds w/ His power
- 3. Choose to install the spiritual centerpiece
 - a. Do the work of worship
 - b. God responds w/ His purpose

If so, you've found the "Doorway To Blessing"