

Now Is the Time: Healing of Our Land

Now that the magnificent temple of the Lord was finally complete, King Solomon knelt before the people with outstretched arms in a fervent prayer to Almighty God. He pleaded for God to hear the cries of His people and respond with favor.

When Solomon finished praying, the glory of the Lord overwhelmed the temple. The people's only response was to bow down on their faces in worship. God's pleasure and favor was in the room! Week after week, they praised God, sacrificed thousands of animals, and rejoiced at His goodness.

God then assured them that He had heard their prayers by giving both a warning and a promise. Yes, there might be times when He sends droughts or pestilence. But, He declared, "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).

It's a promise to Israel that reflects His heart and character for us today. Now is the time to again humble ourselves and plead for God's mercy and the healing of our land. May His favor overwhelm us!

1 King Solomon knelt before Almighty God in prayer:

"LORD my God, give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence." Pray that our national leaders will also humble themselves and cry out to God for His mercy and favor (2 Chronicles 6:19).

2 As Solomon finished praying, "fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices." As you pray for the healing of our land, ask God to respond with His burning fires of revival and spiritual awakening (2 Chronicles 7:1).

3 When overwhelmed by the glory of the Lord, the people responded, "He is good; his love endures forever." Let this be your prayer of joy and thanksgiving today (2 Chronicles 7:3).

4 Ask for a renewed destiny of our nation in honoring God and exalting Jesus. Pray that the Spirit moves in hearts of believers to humble themselves in prayer, seek God, confess sin, repent, and cry out for the healing of our land (2 Chronicles 7:14).

5 The Lord promised Solomon that "my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place." Pray for movements of fervent prayer in churches across this nation, for revival and for awakening of the lost (2 Chronicles 7:15).

6 God chose and consecrated the temple "so that my Name may be there forever." He added this glorious promise: "My eyes and my heart will always be there." Praise God for His faithfulness to His Church. Pray that His name is exalted in your church in ways that bring awakening to your community (2 Chronicles 7:16).

7 Pray that the Church heeds God's warning that He will discipline His people "if you turn away and forsake the decrees and commands I have given you." Pray for a reverent fear of the Lord that leads His Church into truth and unwavering devotion (2 Chronicles 7:19).

8 Pray that the leaders of our nation will pursue biblical truth in all their decisions and understand that "righteousness exalts a nation." Ask God to also make them solemnly aware that "sin condemns any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

9 Nations may try to conspire against God's rule, but "the One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them." Pray for an awakening in our nation to the fear of the Lord, the honoring of His name, and surrender to obey His Word (Psalm 2:4).

10 God invites His Son to "ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession." Pray that this nation and all nations will exalt Jesus and embrace His reign and rule (Psalm 2:8).

11 The Lord warns kings and rulers of the earth to be wise, and to "serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling." Pray that this nation will always bow to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and rejoice in reverence to His rule (Psalm 2:10-11).

12 Pray that the people and leaders of our nation will believe that "blessed are all who take refuge in him." Pray for a national spiritual awakening that draws people to exalt Jesus as the only hope for peace and safety in the healing of our land (Psalm 2:12).

13 Trials, disasters, and chaos may descend on our nation at any time but pray that our leaders will call on God in the day of trouble, believing that He delivers and heals those who honor Him (Psalm 50:15).

14 Pray for the peace and prosperity of this nation “because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Ask God to heal our land in answer to the humble prayers of His people (Jeremiah 29:7).

15 Challenges will come to any nation. But pray that people will remember God’s faithfulness in the past and determine to “be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Pray that believers will model their trust in Jesus with a vision for restoration of this nation (Romans 12:12).

16 This nation has a rich history of God’s intervention at critical times when God’s people cried out to Him. Pray that stories of God’s grace will be passed on to the next generations, telling of “the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done” in healing this land (Psalm 78:4).

17 Pray that leaders in your community and state are awakened to the truth that when they seek God, they will “find [Him] when they seek [Him] with all [their] heart.” Pray that your city will be governed by people who honor biblical principles and turn to God first (Jeremiah 29:13).

18 Pray that our local and national leaders will understand that “there is no authority except that which God has established.” Pray that as governing authorities, they will honor their roles by acknowledging God and leading in His truth (Romans 13:1).

19 Pray that the Church is mobilized to offer “petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving” on behalf of “all those in authority.” Pray for unity in urgent prayer that exalts Jesus over political differences (1 Timothy 2:1-2a).

20 Pray that followers of Christ are faithful in interceding for leaders “that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” Pray for a unified prayer movement among God’s people for those in authority (1 Timothy 2:2b).

21 Pray for a resurgence of showing esteem for people in authority, that all generations might “show proper respect to everyone.” Pray for healing of hatred and division toward those in leadership (1 Peter 2:17).

22 The Lord is near “to all who call on him in truth.” Pray that humility characterizes our leaders as they submit to God and search out direction in His Word. Ask God for godly spiritual advisors who will point them to Jesus as the source of all truth (Psalm 145:18).

23 Pray that as a nation, we will seek God in all things, knowing that “for lack of guidance a nation falls.” Pray for

godly leaders who will not hesitate to pray and seek wisdom from the Lord (Proverbs 11:14).

24 Pray for our president and other national leaders to surrender to the Lord’s leading, knowing that “in the LORD’s hand the king’s heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him.” Pray for our leaders to embrace the power of the gospel to transform their lives (Proverbs 21:1).

25 Pray for God’s mercy for our nation, knowing that “He makes nations great, and destroys them; he enlarges nations, and disperses them.” Pray that this nation prospers in righteousness and helps advance the gospel to the ends of the earth (Job 12:23).

26 Even though as a nation “we have rebelled against [God],” pray with hope for healing of our land, knowing “the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving” (Daniel 9:9).

27 Praise God that we have hope as a nation because God does “not stay angry forever but [delights] to show mercy.” Our sins are many, but pray that we will humble ourselves before God, confess sin, and prosper again with the healing of our land (Micah 7:18).

28 In the midst of a national crisis, King David offered sacrifices—and “then the LORD answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.” Pray for a movement of prayer and repentance over the sins of our nation, that God might be merciful and heal us of destructive societal plagues (2 Samuel 24:25).

29 As a nation, we have strayed from God in so many ways. But pray that God will “in accordance with your great love, forgive the sin of these people....” Pray for an awakening to a holy reverence for God and a longing to be restored to Him (Numbers 14:19).

30 Ask God to respond with favor to our prayers by answering, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” Ask Him to make “a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland” as He heals our nation for His glory (Isaiah 43:19).

31 After King Solomon prayed for God’s favor and offered sacrifices, “he sent the people to their homes, joyful and glad in heart for the good things the LORD had done for David and Solomon and for his people Israel.” Pray that as a nation we will recount God’s faithfulness, trust Him for our future, and worship Him with joy for all His provision (2 Chronicles 7:10).