

# THE CALL TO PRAYER

II Chrn. 6 & 7

## I. GOD'S DESIRE

- A. "...that with his hands he might fulfill that which he spake with his mouth..."
- B. "To choose a city where his name might be there..."
  - 1. "But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there..."
  - 2. *"But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn..."*  
(Heb. 12:22-23).
  - 3. God's desire to reveal His glory in the midst of His people.
  - 4. Recognizing hindrances that keep God's desires from being fulfilled.

## II. COMBATING THE FORCES OF DARKNESS WHICH HOLD BACK THE DESIRE OF THE LORD (BLESSINGS OF THE LORD)

- A. Will usher in the greatest move of God.
- B. Will manifest God in the midst of the people.
- C. Intercessory prayer the highest form of prayer.
  - 1. *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints..."*
  - 2. Perseverance - denotes to continue steadfastly in a thing and give unremitting care to it.
  - 3. Supplication - request

## III. SOLOMON CONSTRUCTED A SCAFFOLD OF PRAYER IN MIDST OF TEMPLE

- A. Prayer must be the center of our activity
- B. Prayer of Solomon
  - 1. Let thy word be verified (God verified, or confirmed His word with signs following).
  - 2. Will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? (Bringing the presence of God into our midst).
  - 3. Have respect to the prayer of thy servant
  - 4. That thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night (the blessings of God upon our church and homes).
  - 5. That righteousness might prevail
    - a. Righteousness in the people
    - b. Righteousness in government.
  - 6. Deliver from enemies (to live in peace).
  - 7. Send rain when there is no rain
    - a. End the drought.
    - b. Bring abundance and plenty.

8. Heal dearth, pestilence, sickness
  9. Hear petitions of strangers from far country (wherever we may be).
  10. In land of captivity (to bring liberty and victory when we are in captivity).
- C. All of these petitions contingent upon prayer and repentance.

#### IV. SOLOMON'S PRAYER ACCEPTED

- A. Fire came from heaven to consume sacrifice (sacrifice was acceptable to God).
- B. Glory of the Lord filled the house
- C. Response brought praise and worship--saying, he is good, his mercy endureth forever (people had something to praise God about).
  1. Praise is when we extol the Lord for His goodness toward us
  2. Worship is when we honor Him for who He is

#### V. GOD HEARS PRAYER AND RESPONDS

- A. If my people who are called by my name (not the sinner on the street).
- B. Shall humble themselves, pray, seek my face, turn from their wicked ways (three steps finalized in turning away from evil ways).
- C. Then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and heal their land
- D. This was basis of Jehosophat's victorious warfare--bringing to remembrance God's covenant with Solomon.
- E. Solomon's prayer is a basis for intercessory prayer.
  1. God's people calling upon Him in behalf of selves and nation.
  2. Need for national repentance.

#### VI. INTERCESSORY PRAYER IN DEED IS A WEAPON OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

- A. Persevering
  1. Phil. 4:6 - *"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."*
  2. Eph. 6:18 - *"Praying always with all prayer and supplication..."*
  3. Pray without ceasing
- B. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much
  1. Elijah was man of like passions as we.
  2. He prayed that it not rain--drought for 3 1/2 years.
  3. Prayed that heavens be opened--rains came.

#### VII. STANDING IN THE GAP

- A. *"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none."* (Ez. 22:30).
- B. Abraham stood in gap for Sodom and Gomorrah.
- C. We can stand in the gap for our community and nation.