Theme: Pray for our Nation (1)

Principles & Promises of Divine Intervention

2 Chronicles 7:14

If My people who are called by My name will <u>humble</u> themselves, and <u>pray</u> and <u>seek My face</u>, and <u>turn from their wicked ways</u>, then I will <u>hear</u> from heaven, and will <u>forgive</u> their sin and <u>heal their land</u>.

Identificational Repentance for the nation

The People of God are responsible for the State of Affairs of the Nation.

2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name

We must stand as functional Elders at the Gates of the Nation.



2 Chronicles 6 & 7

Context: 2 Chronicles 6:19-21

19 Yet regard the prayer of Your servant and his supplication, O LORD my God, and listen to the cry and the prayer which Your servant is praying before You: 20 that Your eyes may be open toward this temple day and night, toward the place where You said You would put Your name, that You may hear the prayer which Your servant makes toward this place. 21 And may You hear the supplications of Your servant and of Your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and when You hear, forgive.

Context: 2 Chronicles 6:22-23

22 If anyone sins against his neighbor, and is forced to take an oath, and <u>comes and takes an oath</u> before Your altar in this temple, 23 then <u>hear from heaven</u>, and <u>act</u>, and <u>judge</u> Your servants, bringing <u>retribution on the wicked</u> by bringing his way on his own head, and <u>justifying the righteous</u> by giving him according to his righteousness.



Context: 2 Chronicles 6:24-25

24 Or <u>if Your people</u> Israel are <u>defeated</u> before an enemy <u>because</u> they have <u>sinned</u> against You, and <u>return</u> and <u>confess</u> Your name, and <u>pray</u> and <u>make supplication</u> before You in this temple, **25** then <u>hear</u> from heaven and <u>forgive</u> the sin of Your people Israel, and <u>bring them back</u> to the land which You gave to them and their fathers.



Context: 2 Chronicles 6:26-27

26 When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, when they **pray** toward this place and **confess** Your name, and **turn** from their sin because You afflict them, **27** then hear in heaven, and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel, that You may teach them the good way in which they should walk; and send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people as an inheritance.



Context: 2 Chronicles 6:28-30

28 When there is **famine** in the land, **pestilence** or **blight** or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers; when their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness there is; 29 whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows his own burden and his own grief, and spreads out his hands to this temple: **30** then <u>hear</u> from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men).

Context: 2 Chronicles 6:34-35

34 When Your people **go out to battle** against their enemies, wherever You send them, and when they **pray** to You toward this city which You have chosen and the temple which I have built for Your name, **35** then <u>hear</u> from heaven their prayer and their supplication, and <u>maintain their cause</u>.



Context: 2 Chronicles 7:13-14

13 When I <u>shut up heaven</u> and there is <u>no rain</u>, or command the <u>locusts</u> to devour the land, or send <u>pestilence</u> among My people, 14 <u>if My people</u> who are called by My name will humble themselves, and <u>pray</u> and <u>seek My face</u>, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will <u>hear</u> from heaven, and will <u>forgive</u> their sin and <u>heal</u> their land.



Principle of Identificational Repentance

Leviticus 26:40 But if they <u>confess their iniquity</u> and the <u>iniquity of</u> <u>their fathers</u>, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, and that they also have walked contrary to Me,

Leviticus 26:42 then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My covenant with Isaac and My covenant with Abraham I will remember; I will remember the land.

Identificational Repentance

- Genesis 18
 Abraham for Sodom and Gormorrah
- Exodus 32 Moses
- 1 Samuel 12:23-24 Samuel
- Nehemiah 1 & 9
- for Israel / Jerusalem

• Daniel 9

 for the end of 70 years captivity under the Babylonians

Identificational Repentance to Walk in Freedom and Victory

From Consequences of Generational Iniquity

Identificational Repentance to Walk in Freedom and Victory From Consequences of Generational Iniquity:

- Individually
- As a Family
- In your Business
- As a Nation

Victory from SOFCs as an Individual:

Accumulated Experiences Accumulated Experiences from Conception to Now

Genes of Forefathers

Who we are Today

Common Consequences of Iniquity in Individuals / Families

Sickness and Infirmities	Rejection - Unworthiness - Passivity
Sexual Sins (Fornication, Idolatry, Marital Issue)	Fears
Abandonment	Shame, Fear, Control
Anger, Rage, Outburst of Wrath	Occult Involvement - Idol Worship

Identificational Repentance for the Nation

The People of God are responsible for the State of Affairs of the Nation.

- 2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name
- Ezekiel 9:6 judgment begin at My sanctuary, began with the elders
- 1 Peter 4:17 judgment begins in the house of the Lord

We must stand as functional Elders at the Gates of the Nation.

2 Chronicles 7:14

I. Principles for Divine Intervention II. Promises of Divine Intervention

Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.

2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name will <u>humble</u> <u>themselves</u>, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Obstacle = Pride (rooted in self)

I. Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 1. We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.
 A. The humble believer is one who walks in <u>brokenness</u>.

Isaiah 57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Psalm 51:17 The <u>sacrifices of God are a broken spirit</u>, <u>a broken and</u> <u>a contrite heart</u>—these, O God, You will not despise. We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.
 A. The humble believer is one who walks in <u>brokenness</u>.

Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him <u>deny himself</u>, and <u>take up his cross daily</u>, and <u>follow Me</u>.

We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.
 B. This means we walk in <u>total dependence</u> to God.

Proverbs 3:5-6
5 Trust in the Lord with <u>all</u> your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in <u>all</u> your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

1. We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.

C. This means we continually deal with our <u>pride</u>, the core of our <u>self-life</u>.

10 Evidences of Pride By Bishop Dr. J Soyinka

(1) Pride refuses to listen, it always interrupts others

(2) Pride likes to talk about itself all the time

(3) Pride has an intense desire to be noticed

(4) Pride believes that it deserves everything it gets

(5) Pride is <u>not</u> thankful

1. We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.

C. This means we continually deal with our <u>pride</u>, the core of our <u>self-life</u>.

10 Evidences of Pride By Bishop Dr. J Soyinka

(6) Pride cannot be corrected

- (7) Pride does not like to follow instructions
- (8) Pride exalts itself in the presence of others; it brags
- (9) Pride <u>criticizes</u> and tries to make itself look better by putting others <u>down</u>
- (10) Pride thinks of its own needs first

We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.
 D. Humility is to have <u>self-awareness</u> and a <u>realistic</u> estimate of ourselves.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

EG1 - Luke 18:9-14 [Pharisee & Tax Collector]
9 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.
11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

EG1 - Luke 18:9-14 [Pharisee & Tax Collector] 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' 13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

EG2 - Daniel 4:28-33

28 All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. 30 The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?" 31 While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice fell from heaven: "King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you!

EG2 - Daniel 4:28-33

32 And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses." 33 That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

We must <u>humble</u> ourselves.
 F. As Scriptures exhort us.

Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to Walk humbly with your God?

2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, <u>and pray</u> and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Pray - the opposite is Pray-lessness

Luke 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.

James 4:2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing ...

Our prayers lay the tracks on which the Grace of God runs

Pray-lessness is to be <u>disconnected</u> from God

Pray-lessness is to be <u>cut off</u> from the Mercy and Grace of God

Pray-lessness relies on self and our own resources

I. Four Principles for Divine Intervention 2. **Pray Three Dimensions of Prayer A.** Approach God as **Father B.** Approach God as **Friend** C. Approach God as Judge

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore <u>come boldly</u> to the <u>throne of grace</u>, that we may <u>obtain mercy and find grace</u> to help in time of need.
Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 <u>Seek</u> His Face

2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and <u>seek My face</u>, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Seek His Face = Hunger after God (Obstacle = Self-satisfaction) Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 <u>Seek</u> His Face

Jeremiah 29:13 And you will <u>seek Me and find Me</u>, <u>when you search</u> for Me with all your heart.

Romans 10:13 For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

I. Four Principles for Divine Intervention
3. <u>Seek</u> His Face

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

I. Four Principles for Divine Intervention
3. <u>Seek</u> His Face

Isaiah 55:6 <u>Seek the Lord While He may be found</u>, <u>call upon</u> <u>Him While He is near</u>.

Seek His Face = God-consciousness always Seek His Word, His Kingdom & His Righteousness!

Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 Turn from their wicked ways

2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and <u>turn from their wicked ways</u>, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Obstacle = Sin

Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 Turn from their wicked ways
 Wicked ways means we commit sins.

Galatians 5:19-21

19 Now the <u>works of the flesh</u> are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **21** envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Sins - when we grieve the Holy Spirit Ephesians 4:25-32 - 5:5:



4. Turn from their wicked ways Other Examples: By Ian Humphrey A. <u>Selfishness</u> B. Scorning the things of God e.g. re tithes & offerings **C.** <u>Sloth</u> [James 4:17] **D.** <u>Slander</u> - speaking evil of another [James 4:11] E. <u>Sacrilege</u> - treating the holy as unholy; idols F. Sympathy with the world contrary to the Word

Four Principles for Divine Intervention
 4. <u>Turn</u> from their wicked ways

Malachi 3:18 Then you shall again discern between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

Matthew 25:26-27

26 But his lord answered and said to him, 'You <u>wicked and lazy servant</u>, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. **27** So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.

II. 3 Promises of Divine Intervention
1. God will hear us
2. God will forgive our sins
3. God will heal our land

II. 3 Promises of Divine Intervention
1. God will <u>hear</u> us

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 <u>hear from heaven</u>, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Jeremiah 33:3 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.' II. 3 Promises of Divine Intervention2. God will <u>forgive</u> our sins

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 will <u>forgive their sin</u> and heal their land.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

II. 3 Promises of Divine Intervention3. God will <u>heal</u> our land

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 will forgive their sin and <u>heal their land</u>.

II. 3 Promises of Divine Intervention3. God will <u>heal</u> our land

Joel 2:25-26 25 So I will **restore** to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the crawling locust, the consuming locust, and the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you. 26 You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you; and My people shall never be put to shame.

Bottom-Line

2 Chronicles 7:14 If My people who are called by My name will <u>humble</u> themselves, and <u>pray</u> and <u>seek My face</u>, and <u>turn from their wicked ways</u>, then I will <u>hear</u> from heaven, and will <u>forgive</u> their sin and <u>heal their land</u>.

1 Timothy 2:1-2

1 Therefore I exhort <u>first</u> of all that supplications, <u>prayers, intercessions</u>, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 2 <u>for kings and all who are in</u> <u>authority</u>, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.