

If:

My People Will Humble Themselves and Pray

WE STARTED THE SERIES WITH THIS PROMISE AND CONDITION...

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
Galatians 6:9 (NIV)*

TODAY WE ARE LOOKING AT TWO IF STORIES:

*When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." So Jesus went with him.
Mark 5:21-24 (NIV)*

*A large crowd followed and pressed around him. And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.
Mark 5:25-29 (NIV)*

KEY THOUGHT: _____ IS THE POSTURE OF PROMISE IN SCRIPTURE!

WHICH LEADS US TO TODAY'S IF VERSE...

*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 (NIV)*

THE CONDITION: IF MY PEOPLE WILL _____ THEMSELVES AND _____.

THE PROMISE: I WILL _____ FROM HEAVEN, _____ THEIR SIN AND _____ THEIR LAND.

LET'S LOOK AT AN EXAMPLE FROM SCRIPTURE OF A HUMBLE ATTITUDE...

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands. ¹³ Now he had made a bronze platform, five cubits long, five cubits wide and three cubits high,¹⁴ and had placed it in the center of the outer court. He stood on the platform and then knelt down before the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven.

2 Chronicles 6:12-13(NIV)

*“God opposes the proud
but shows favor to the humble.”¹*

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

1 Peter 5:5-6 (NIV)

JUST A FEW CHAPTERS LATER, THE ISRAELITES HAVE ALREADY FORGOTTEN THE PROMISE...

Were not the Cushites and Libyans a mighty army with great numbers of chariots and horsemen? Yet when you relied on the LORD, he delivered them into your hand. For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war. ”

Asa was angry with the seer because of this; he was so enraged that he put him in prison. At the same time Asa brutally oppressed some of the people.

2 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV)

KEY THOUGHT: _____ MAKES US ANGRY WITH _____.

*You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.*

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;

a broken and contrite heart

you, God, will not despise.

Psalms 51:16-17 (NIV)

*For this is what the high and exalted One says—
he who lives forever, whose name is holy:*

“I live in a high and holy place,

but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit,

to revive the spirit of the lowly

and to revive the heart of the contrite.

Isaiah 57:15 (NIV)

THE SECOND PART OF THE CONDITION WAS TO PRAY...

*When your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you and when they turn back and give praise to your name, praying and making supplication before you in this temple,
25 then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to them and their ancestors.*

2 Chronicles 6:24-25 (NIV)

“When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and when they pray toward this place and give praise to your name and turn from their sin because you have afflicted them, then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel.

2 Chronicles 26-27 (NIV)

“When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, 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 7:13-14(NIV)

KEY THOUGHT: YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE IN A _____ SITUATION TO BE _____ FOR GOD.