

Series: God's Story: Finding Our Place in His Unfolding Plan

Jul 2, 2017: 2 Chronicles 7:11-22 – A Call to Prayer

How are We doing?

What have you seen in the news lately, or what news has there been in your life? Are things going well, or not?

If things go poorly, what is your response? Do you flee, fight, strive, hide, complain, pray, eat, call a friend?

Does the Christian hope of redemption help in the present, or does it make you groan, all the more?

Good: A Place, a Promise, and a Warning (11, 16-22)

Verse 11: Solomon has built "God's house" – a temple. How did this come about? Why has it been built (16)?

What does God promise, about the house and Solomon's family, and what conditions are required (16-22)?

What is the purpose of God's blessing and discipline? What is His main pursuit?

Not-So-Good: God Anticipates & Provides (12-15)

Verse 13 indicates that God knows that things will go poorly at some point. Why would he allow this to happen?

Verse 14: What restoration does God offer, and what is our part to play in it?

What God Wants From Us

Prayer requires faith (Hebrews 11:1,6) and humility (Luke 18:9-17). What does this look like?

How can Scripture, honesty with God, and fellowship help us gain confidence in prayer?

In relation to the world's problems, God calls His people to pray (Ephesians 6:11,18, 1 Timothy 2:1-4). Does this seem like enough?

Try the prayer of examen (Psalm 139:23-24) or the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) as a guide for you now, and this week.²

Chronicles 7:11-22

¹¹ Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king's house. All that Solomon had planned to do in the house of the LORD and in his own house he successfully accomplished.

¹² Then the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice. ¹³ When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, ¹⁴ if my people who are called by my name 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 heal their land. ¹⁵ Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. ¹⁶ For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time.

¹⁷ And as for you, if you will walk before me as David your father walked, doing according to all that I have commanded you and keeping my statutes and my rules, ¹⁸ then I will establish your royal throne, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not lack a man to rule Israel.'

¹⁹ "But if you turn aside and forsake my statutes and my commandments that I have set before you, and go and serve other gods and worship them, ²⁰ then I will pluck you up from my land that I have given you, and this house that I have consecrated for my name, I will cast out of my sight, and I will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples. ²¹ And at this house, which was exalted, everyone passing by will be astonished and say, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?' ²² Then they will say, 'Because they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers who brought them out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods and worshiped them and served them. Therefore he has brought all this disaster on them.'"