

Covid Keys & Cures in 2 Chronicles

Please read 2 Chronicles Chapter 6

This occasion represented a focal point in redemption history. Solomon rehearsed God's faithfulness to Israel throughout history culminating in David's reign and the construction of the temple. We might reasonably expect Solomon's perspective expressed in his prayer of dedication to manifest all the key features of God's own priorities for His kingdom. I suggest that it does. But notice how different Solomon's petitions were from those we tend to associate with contemporary 'Christianity'. Foremost in Solomon's perspective was God's covenant – i.e. that God had established a 'covenant relationship with His people with various promises (mercy & faithfulness) & pledges (v16.... 'only if your sons take heed to their way, that they walk in my law').

The Temple served as a public reminder to all the people of God's covenant faithfulness; prayer made 'toward this place' would ordinarily be heard and answered. Forgiveness of sin was especially in view! (v21)

Special Kingdom Concerns

- (i) Solomon was first concerned for the prosecution of justice in the public square (see vs 22-23).
- (ii) Solomon's second concern was covenantal unfaithfulness/disobedience and consequential providential oppression by a foreign enemy (vs 24-25)
- (iii) Solomon's third concern was covenantal unfaithfulness/disobedience and consequential providential judgement in the form of (a) famine, pestilence, mildew, plague & sickness (v28) or (b) when they suffer political defeat (v28) and (c) united public admission of sin (v28, 29&31)
- (iv) Solomon's fourth concern was for the discipling of all nations under heaven – that they might embrace the one true religion and hallow the Name of the God of Israel (v33)
- (v) Solomon's fifth petition was that the enemies of Israel might be utterly subdued (v34).
- (vi) Solomon's sixth petition was a repetition of his second concern! i.e. that the nation might learn to read the providence of God when they have been found neglectful of solemn duty towards God as a society (vs 36-39) & provoked by captivity to foreign powers to humbly confess their sins as a nation.

All of this can be summarised by this other Biblical prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. (Matt 6:9-13)

Questions:

- ***Have our 'Church concerns' been similar of different from Solomon's 'kingdom concerns'?***
- ***Have we been excessively preoccupied with our 'personal walk with Jesus' to the neglect of injustice – i.e. flagrant crime being perpetrated in the public square?***
- ***Might God have decreed COVID-19 as a providential judgement on a compromised Church & nation which has turned its back on His Law & settled instead for humanism, secularism & multiculturalism, etc?***