

Covid Keys & Cures in 2 Chronicles

Please read 2 Chronicles Chapter 7

We took time to carefully analyse Solomon's prayer of consecration of the new Temple (Ch 6). We wondered about each of the petitions and thought about the differences & similarities between (i) contemporary 'Church' concerns and (ii) petitions found within in the Lord's (model) Prayer.

But crucially, we want to know what God's response was to Solomon! Was Solomon's perspective right? Did God endorse it? Let's consider what He said (re-read 7: 12-22)

1. God affirms that He is in sovereign control of (i) the weather (ii) 'natural disasters' & (iii) pandemics (v13).
2. His purpose in orchestrating these and similar other forces is to induce humility and repentance in His covenant people – i.e. His Church (v13)
3. The Temple, Mount Zion, Jerusalem & the land of Israel were to be identified in perpetuity with God's determination to bless the nations of the world. The world beyond its territory would look upon them and either (a) recognise God's hand of blessing or (b) recognise God's hand of judgement (vs 15-22).

This agrees with what Jesus spoke about His Church:

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."
(Matt 5:16)

Accordingly, the Church was to be visibly living as a new social order within the context of a corrupt, satanically inspired confederacy where lying, deceit & godless superstition were the order of the day. Light from the Church was to be put on display; it wasn't to be hidden! Somehow, the godly principles of its citizenry were to be made manifest within the culture.

Again, Jesus said,

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavour, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." (Matt 5:13)

The practical implication of this is clear enough. Unless the Church lives up to its high calling to model kingdom righteousness, justice and true holiness in the world, God will cast it out & disassociate Himself from it. Arguably, corruption and worldliness reached such heights in the middle centuries of the last millennium triggering a Reformation. Some today are wondering whether we are on the brink of a 'Renaissance' of authentic Biblically-grounded Christianity which is wedded to the pursuit of God's kingdom in the world rather than merely rescuing souls from a future Hell.

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 heal their land. (2Chron 7:14)

Questions:

- *Jesus warned that 'tasteless salt would be cast out.' Has it come to that?*
- *What prospect is there that the remaining Churches might begin to engage 'politically' with the derelict (humanistic) culture which has grown up around them over recent decades?*