FBC Devotion Thursday July 2 2020 2 Chronicles 7:14

Our text comes from 2 Chronicles 7:14, which is perhaps the most famous verse on revival in the Bible:

"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."

The current coronavirus pandemic reminds us we need to pay close attention to verses like this.

"If my people, who are called by my name" (v. 14a).

This verse is limited to those who know the Lord. God limits this invitation to those who are "**His people.**" This promise applies to those who know Jesus and to no one else.

"Will humble themselves." What exactly is humility?

When we start feeling too puffed up about ourselves, we need to remember 1 Corinthians 4:7, "What do you have that you did not receive?" The answer is nothing. Kudos to anyone who has "made it" to the top. But just remember this. The strength to do the task, the intelligence to put together the plan, the skill to bring all the parts together, the courage to make it happen—all of it comes directly from God. None of us has anything to boast about.

And Pray: What sort of prayer is the Lord talking about? When I understand everything I have comes as a gift from God, my prayers will be filled with gratitude, love and praise.

The phrase "seek my face" is to hunger for a closer walk with Him. It means a definite break with the past and a deliberate change of direction. You will never pray with any fervency until you see your true condition before God. You will never seek God's face until you begin to get serious about prayer.

Humility leads to prayer. Prayer leads to seeking God's face. Seeking God's face leads to turning from any sin in our lives.

The Promise

"Then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land" (v. 14c). My brothers and sisters, what an assurance this is!

He will hear.

He will forgive.

He will heal.

If we do our part, though it may seem very incomplete, God will certainly do His. If we humble ourselves, and if we pray, and if we seek His face, and if we turn away from any sin, knowing all the while that we still fall short, the Lord will move from heaven to come to our aid.