



If My People Will

2 Chronicles 7:11-16

¹¹ When Solomon had finished the temple of the LORD and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the LORD and in his own palace, ¹² the LORD appeared to him at night and said: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices. ¹³ "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, ¹⁴ 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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. ¹⁵ Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. ¹⁶ I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

Lesson 2: Will Humble Themselves

Willingness of heart If my people will

► Are you moveable and maneuverable?

Do you have a heart that is soft toward God? Is your spirit able to be stirred and agitated by God? Does Jesus have a magnetism that still entices and attracts you?

Exodus 35:21 everyone who was willing and whose heart moved him came and brought an offering to the LORD for the work on the Tent of Meeting,

Ezra 1:5 everyone whose heart God had moved—prepared to go up and build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem.

Acts 2:37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

Psalms 84:2 My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

► Are you manageable and masterable?

Are you teachable and trainable before the Word and the Spirit? Are you receptive to spiritual discipline and correction? Do you look and listen for the Lord's leading?

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

John 16:13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire; ²⁰ do not treat prophecies with contempt.

Hosea 4:16 The Israelites are stubborn, like a stubborn heifer. How then can the LORD pasture them like lambs in a meadow?

Hebrews 12:11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace

► Are you malleable and moldable?

Are you moving in a forward direction spiritually? Are you growing into a glorious child of God? Are you being conformed, even transformed, to the likeness of Jesus?

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.z

Isaiah 64:8 O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Romans 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord,

As we ask ourselves these questions, we should consider:

- ▲ the direction and momentum of our spiritual lives over the past few years;
- ▲ any current circumstance or situation that is affecting our spiritual lives in some way;
- ▲ our present status as a lover of God and worker of his will.

Walking in humility will humble themselves

► Humility recognizes spiritual shortcomings

Some are behind schedule spiritually. Some have fallen off schedule spiritually. Even the strongest have room to advance and grow spiritually.

1 Corinthians 3:2 I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

Hebrews 5:12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again.

Galatians 5:7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

► Humility repents of sin and slothfulness

Some who are called by God's Name are living in disobedience to God's commands. Some have distanced themselves devotionally and emotionally from God.

Hosea 14:2 Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: "Forgive our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips."

Psalms 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgression to the LORD"—and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Luke 15:17 "When he came to his senses, he said, '—— ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Revelation 2:4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. ⁵ Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

Joshua 23:11 So be very careful to love the LORD your God.

► Humility returns to the source of salvation and strength

The LORD is the author and giver of eternal salvation. He is the strength of our lives. He is the source of true joy and abundant life. We must depend entirely on him.

Psalms 51:10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Psalms 51:12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Psalms 73:26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalms 87:7 As they make music they will sing, "All my fountains are in you."

Willingness and humility pray,

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalms 139:23-24