

The If – Then Statement

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 7:14

2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV If my people, which are called by my name, shall 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.

Introduction

Most of the last 25 years of my life I've spent as an Information Technology specialist. Part of that time I was a programmer. Programming languages have logic clauses that make decisions based upon whether or not certain conditions are met. One of those logic statements is called an if – then clause. An if – then statement says if (condition is met), then (execute an action). This verse is such a clause.

I. The subject of the statement

2 Chronicles 7:14a KJV If my people, which are called by my name

A. G-d is addressing His people

1. "Washed in the blood" people

2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2. His flawed (Romans 7) people

a. Sins of presumption

Psalms 19:13 KJV Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

b. Secret sins

Psalms 90:8 KJV Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

3. His mercy toward his people

1 John 2:1 KJV My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

1 John 1:7 KJV But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

B. His people have a reputation

1. People notice who you are

Example: Oni's next door neighbor

2. Others have expectations of G-d's people

Example: I can't believe (s)he did that ... (s)he is a Christian

II. The conditions of the statement

2 Chronicles 7:14b KJV ...shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways;

A. Humble themselves

James 4:6 KJV But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

2 Chronicles 12:12 KJV And when he humbled himself, the wrath of the Lord turned from him, that he would not destroy him altogether: and also in Judah things went well.

B. Pray

James 5:16b KJV The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Isaiah 55:6 KJV Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

C. Seek my face

2 Chronicles 12:14 KJV And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the Lord.

Jeremiah 29:13 KJV And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

D. Turn from their wicked ways

1. Busied with life

Luke 8:14 KJV And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

2. Independent

a. Joshua and the Gibeonites

Joshua 9:14 KJV And the men took of their victuals, **and asked not counsel at the mouth of the Lord.**

b. Uzziah

2 Chronicles 26:5 KJV And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: **and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.**

III. The actions when conditions are met

2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV ...then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

A. Hear from heaven

Isaiah 65:24 KJV And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

B. Forgive their sin

Psalms 103:3 KJV Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

C. Heal their land

Deuteronomy 28:1-4 KJV And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: 2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God. 3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. 4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and

the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

Conclusion

When G-d's conditions are met, His benefits flow to the believer.