

SUNDAY FAITH DEVELOPMENT INTRODUCTORY REVIEW

March 18, 2018

Worshipping in God's Temple

II Chronicles 7:1-9

LESSON OUTLINE

1. II Chronicles 7:1-3 – WORSHIP BY PRAISING GOD
2. II Chronicles 7:4-7 – WORSHIP BY SACRIFICE AND MUSIC
3. II Chronicles 7:8-9 – WORSHIP BY ASSEMBLING

Last week we studied A Prayer of Dedication. The Book of II Chronicles was used to impart hidden truths to help lead us in our Spiritual walk with Christ. The lesson expositor for The Bible Expositor and Illuminator concluded the lesson saying, *“We may think of answers to prayer in three basic general categories: yes, no, and wait...sometimes “wait” because only God knows the best time for the best answer....The prayer of Solomon...was prayed only once on a very specific occasion, and the answer was immediate. We may need to pray a certain prayer often and over a long period of time before we get an answer....We are to be talking to God all the time about everything in humility and thankfulness for His grace and mercy.”*

Solomon built a platform and knelt before the people, praying to the LORD God of Israel. He acknowledged Him as being like no other God in heaven or on earth. God had kept the promise to David. Therefore, he asked God to continue to adhere to that promise. That promise was that the Temple be built; it was now complete. Next, David's son was sitting on the throne as promised. Next Solomon asked God to keep the next part of the promise, David's descendants would reign as long as they were faithful.

The Holman Study Bible says that, *“In Israel's theology, the temple was a place where people could come to encounter the living God, but this living God was present everywhere.”* Solomon knew that God was not only in the Temple but everywhere. Solomon asked God to listen and respond. First, a guilty man taking an oath to offer justice. He asked next about the consequences of the Israelites turning away from God. Then Solomon asked for rain to correct the drought brought on by disobedience of the nation. Solomon also asked for all foreigners' prayer to be heard and answered. He asked for God's help in war. Lastly, that once the nation repented that the LORD would forgive.

Solomon's prayer ended by asking God to take full possession of the Temple. This would allow all the priests, saints and the King, Solomon, to enjoy being in the presence of God. He prayed that God would bless His people for the sake of the mercies of David. The last verse of Chapter 6 wraps up Solomon's prayer in a nut shell. He asked that God not turn away.

This is where our lesson begins. Chapter 7 shows us what happens after Solomon's prayer. May the Holy Spirit speak through our teacher as we study the lesson, Worshipping in God's Temple.