

(2 Chron 6:23-) Solomon Gives God a series of IF/
Then Requests.

(2 Chron 7:1-3) God having given testimony to
Solomon's prayer by fire from heaven, and glory in
the temple, the people worship him.

(2 Chron 7:4-7) Solomon's solemn sacrifice.

(2 Chron 7:8-11) Solomon having kept the feast of
tabernacles, and the feast of dedication of the altar,
dismisses the people.

(2 Chron 7:12-22) God appearing to Solomon, gives
him an IF/Then promises.

(2 Chron 7:14)

PROPOSITION

If my people,

I. **“IF”** - 1 of the most powerful words in the bible.
Many of God's promises are “*Conditional*” Promises.
IF/Then propositions from God.

“**IF**” means the you have a part to play.

(1 Jn 1:7) *If we walk in the light...the blood...cleanses*

(1 Jn 1:9) *If we confess our sins, he is faithful...*

(Jn 15:7) *If ye abide in me, you shall ask, it shall be*

(Jam 4:8) *Draw nigh to God, & He will draw high 2U*

(Mk 9:23) *If thou canst believe, all things are possible*

Jn 11:40) *If you believe you shall see the glory of God*
(Rom 10:9) *That IF THOU shalt confess with thy ...*

If you Will, Then God Will

If you Won't, then God Won't

Deity responds to Humanity's choices.

***God said He would deal with His people according
to their choices.***

(Ex 19:5-6) *Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice
indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a
peculiar treasure unto me above all people:*

It will require FAITH – (Heb 11:6) (Heb 11:1)

Faith is trusting God to be truthful.

Faith is believing God's word is true.

(Heb 11:8) *By faith Abraham, when he was called to
go out into a place which he should after receive for
an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing
whither he went.*

Faith is believing God's love for you is Real & greater
than any other love you have ever experienced.

God want our faith to grow.

God wants us to learn more about Him, so our faith
will grow.

The Choice is Ours whether we receive the Promises.

God has already chosen, He waits for you to decide!

God has already chosen for you to be Saved:

God has already chosen for you to live Holy:

God has already chosen for you to fulfill His Purpose:
God has already chosen for you to be the recipient of
His blessings: The choice is ours to make.

II. If "my people" - Kinship=Family

Are you God's person?

How did you become His Person? (1 Jn 5:1) (Jn 3:36)

When did you become His Person?

"He that believeth ON Jesus, hath everlasting life."

When did it happen.

If you don't know, you can settle it RIGHT NOW!

If you do know, then Relive it by retelling it.

Are you one of God's People?

Are you 1 of God's Children?

Illus: I have children, 4 here, 4 in heaven!

I KNOW I will recognize them when I see them.

Because I recognize my 4 here.

They Look like me, They act like me.

They talk like me, They like what I like.

Other people can recognize I am their Father.

Visitors tell me, I think I met one of your sons.

Are you one of God's Children?

Do you Look like your Father?

Do you Talk like your Father?

Do you Act like your Father?

Can others recognize who your Father is?

Jesus told the Pharisees, *ye are of your father the devil*
Who's Your Daddy?

I can get my kids to do things for me you can't!

B/C I am their Daddy!

They have their own personalities.

But I am their Daddy.

They will obey me or live somewhere else.

Illus: A Lady who moved & didn't tell her daughter.

If your kids were as committed to you, as you are to

God, would they still be allowed to live at home

If your kids were as unfaithful to you, as you are to

God, would they still be allowed to live at home

Parents of Teenagers/Adult Children!

The Struggle is Real! Isn't It?

Why? they don't want to Obey at the level you want

them too, so it is a constant struggle.

Maybe that's the Struggle you & God are having?

Just Obedient Enough to not get kicked out!

III. If my people "which are called by my name,"

To be called by His name: Identified with God!

You are God's Family.

Jesus' Incarnation & Birth was God Identifying w/US

Salvation is our New Birth into God's Family.

Baptism is US Identifying with GOD's Name!

Denying our Flesh Identifies us with God!

(Lk 9:23) *If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, & follow me*

Requirement to be His disciple.

(Lk 14:27) *whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.*

Illus: *What's your last name? "Mix"
Who's boy are you? "Yours"*

*What they think of YOU is what they think of me.
They way you act reflects upon Me!*

Can others tell that you are God's people?

(Acts 11:26) *Christians 1st @ Antioch ~ Christ-Like
"The disciples were called Christians first @ Antioch"*

Identity Theft is a Billion dollar problem.

Someone impersonates you, Takes your name, contact info, personal information about you.

They create a large amount of debt by stealing the money and you are left responsible for it.

*This type of **Fraud** destroys people.*

*The stress of the debt can end marriages/split homes.
It will take years to be right again.*

Their name & reputation is so damaged, no one will trust them with money or anything of value.

Identity theft is letting others think you are someone your not, & fooling them into trusting you.

So many different religious groups, and even people in general have committed Identity theft on God.

Illus: *What If God had Life Lock?*

Heavenly white color crime division is alerted & the springs into action with immediate consequence

Illus: *The name, Christian, used to mean something-
There was a time: it meant something special, pure.
You knew what kind of person you were dealing with.*

*You knew what kind of character to expect.
Christian meant the Character of CHRIST.*

*You could trust people to act like Christ.
It meant you were dealing with a godly person.*

Are you committing Identity Theft on God?

Have you been Born Into God's Family?

*Do you identify yourself with him in baptism?
Do you embody His character?*

It's time to Life Lock the word Christian.

*It's Time to take back the word to mean what it was supposed to mean – ie. **Christ-Like***

If my people, who are called by my name...

IV. Shall Humble Themselves,

Remember the Exodus Story?

God sends Moses to speak to pharaoh & deliver, the people from bondage in Egypt.

(Ex 5:1-2) *Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.*

Check out Pharaoh's response to God's command.
And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Many of the kings and emperors of the past believed & made their subjects believe that they were gods.

Maybe Pharaoh believed that he was on equal divinity or higher than this slave god.

- When I was lost I too made this same statement.
- Pharaoh is a good picture of every unrepentant sinner that has said this same thing in their hearts, their actions, and their attitudes.

The source of Willfulness and its associated attitude of the heart is PRIDE!

(Ps 10:4) The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.;

Who is the Lord that I should obey Him?

Many people I witness to have the same attitude

"I will do what I want to!"

"I don't care what God thinks!"

- Pharaoh is also a good picture of me, as a Christian, who likes to pick & choose what I want to obey & when I want to obey.

*(Prov 13:10) Only by **PRIDE** cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.*

You don't always feel like being forgiving to others.
You don't always feel like being accommodating.

Many people come to me for council, but when presented with the truth of God's Word, which always necessitates humility, the desire to change dissipates.

We don't want to admit we MAY be wrong.

We like even less admitting others MAY be right.

Maybe Pharaoh believed he could subdue God, but whatever he thought, the fight was ON!

(Ex 10:3) *And Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me.*

Humble means to lower our opinion of ourself.

Lower our pride, & To Admit God is God.
Lower our pride, & To Admit God it right.
Lower our pride, & To Admit we are wrong.
Lower our pride, & To Obey.

What is God going to have to let us go through before we are willing to voluntarily Humble ourselves?

If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves ...

V. and pray, and seek my face,

(Luke 18:1-8) The Unjust Judge.

This parable contrasts God as apposed to an unjust judge.

The unjust judge was badgered to death because he had no care, concern, or compassion.

Rather God, is quick to answer the prayers of His own Elect.

God is anxious to respond to the cries of His children.

Prayer is not *The Overcoming of Reluctance* on the part of God.

There is no need to attempt to Strong Arm Deity (Which is impossible) to do our bidding.
We have a prayer answering God who delights in responding to the prayers of His children.

God is anxious to respond to the cries of those humble enough to recognize their need.

-You can ask God to quicken your heart.
- You can ask God to draw near in mercy.

The only things which lie outside the reach of prayer are the things which lie outside the will of God.

God puts sanctified desires in the hearts of His people so they in turn utter them back to Him in prayer.

“I will pour water on him that is thirsty and floods upon the dry ground” (Is 44:3)

(Heb 11:6) Without Faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that HE IS, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.

We need to stop “*SAYING*” our prayers and to start “*PRAYING*” our prayers.

Effective prayer is heartfelt, fervent, and initiated by the Holy Spirit.

Our prayers must move us before they will ever move God.

(Matt 17:14-21) Howbeit **THIS KIND** goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

and turn from their wicked ways;

Repentance:

Our Flesh is a powerful force in our lives.

(Gal 5:16-17)

We must turn from our sin, and turn UNTO God and surrender ourselves to the Holy Spirit.

(Rom 12:1) The problem is the sacrifice crawls off the altar.

2 Flesh hooks of Duty and Devotion.

Forsake Sin:

Illus: Dropping our watch in a port-a-potty.

You wont go in after it.

RESULTS

then will I hear from heaven,

God always responds to our choices.

(Prov 3:1-10) Promises tied to our choices.

(Gal 6:7-9) works for the positive as well as the negative.

and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

We should not blame America's problems on the Lost; the Abortionist, the Drug dealers, the Porn industry, or Hollywood.

They act lost because they are lost.

Illus: You should not beat your dog for acting like a dog.

That's not fair to the dog.

He will never be anything but a dog.

The problem with a America is that God is calling HIS people to repent, not the lost world.

“Forgive THEIR sin and will heal THEIR land.”

God is calling His people to Humble their pride.

IF/Then

The Reason for America's problems resides with the Christian not doing what they are called to do.

The Answer to America's problems are found in the Christian responding to God's call for personal revival.