



DATE: 28 April 2024 AM
TEXT: **2 Chronicles 7:14**
TITLE: **Forbear**

verb: to politely restrain an impulse to do something

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.

2 Chronicles 7:14

INTRODUCTION

- throughout the months of February and March, I preached messages that caused us to confront our sin
- last Sunday morning, we began looking at the idea of **REVIVAL**...what it means and what it will take to accomplish it in our church

**Revival is the church falling in love
with Jesus all over again.**

~ Vance Havner

- our theme verse for the year is found in **Ezra 9:8**, and notice what Ezra had to say:

And now for a little space grace hath been *shewed* from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.

a little reviving in our bondage involves a renewal of our servitude...a change in our attitude

- remember, revival is for saved people...those who are lost in sin are dead...
- in the church, revival comes as a spark, from member to member, as we confess our sins and draw closer to God in our walk and our work
- in the first sermon of this series, we considered the phrase **If my people which are called by my name...**

MY PEOPLE...MY NAME

1. Requirement of God's Presence

2. Reputation of God's Name

3. Reproach of God's People

NOTE: I am making an effort to connect our Sunday School lessons and our Wednesday night study in all of this, so consider the following verses:

Deuteronomy 4:39

Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament sheweth his handiwork.

Psalms 29:3-4

The voice of the LORD is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

Isaiah 40:12

Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

1. DELIVERED FROM PRIDE

one good definition of **HUMILITY** goes like this:

humility is not thinking less of yourself...
it is not thinking of yourself at all

and if you are not thinking about yourself,
then **WHO** or **WHAT** will you think about???

biblical principle that if you take
something away, it must be replaced

John 3:30

He must increase, but I must decrease.

A. HUMILITY IS SELF-INDUCED

...shall humble themselves

God will not humble you...

I or others cannot humble you...

criticize, debase, belittle, etc.

James 4:10

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord,
and he shall lift you up.

1 Peter 5:6

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand
of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

think about it...any situation God allows to
come into our lives in order to humble us
could result in pride defending our position...

James and Peter both failed Jesus miserably,
but ultimately came away humbled...

B. HUMILITY IS SELF-IGNORING

Job was a perfect man...spiritually mature...and an upright man when compared to those in his circle of friends

he feared God...he hated evil

Job 1:8

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

yet, there was something Job was missing in his life...and God used this episode to bring it about

Job 13:15

Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.

in **Job 13:23-25**, Job asked four very **bold** questions

how many sins?

why do you hide your face?

will you chase after a dried leaf?

will you keep pursuing dirt?

then, in **Job 38-39**, God asks Job a series of 80+ questions...

who do you think you are?

where were you when I...?

NOTE: BTW, Job's friends invited themselves into a situation where God was growing Job

in **Job 42:1-6**, Job decided to shut his mouth and focus on God rather than himself...

2. RESPONDENT IN PRAYER

= in low spirits from loss of courage

A. DEVELOP A HATRED FOR SIN

in the presence of God (last's week's message), a person should always face their own sin

DAVID...thou art the man 2 Samuel 12:7

against thee and thee only **Psalm 51:4**

ISAIAH...woe is me, for I am undone 6:5

PETER...it is the Lord...and he covered himself and jumped in the water John 21:7

and what can be the only logical response to being confronted by your sin??? **PRAYER**

James 5:13

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray.

afflicted = endure hardness

see also **2 Timothy 2:3**

B. DESIRE THE HOLINESS OF GOD

in **James 5:16-17**, Elijah prayed...twice...that it would not rain, and then for the rain to come

see **1 Kings 18**

Elijah was praying according to the Law and promises of God

Deuteronomy 28:1-12 *blessings in obedience*

Deuteronomy 28:23-24

And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

Philippians 2:8

And being found in fashion as a man, [Jesus] humbled himself, and became obedient...

**When you have a clear vision of who God is,
then you will want what He wants**