

Emmaus Road

...and he opened to us the Scriptures (Luke 24:32)

I trust you had a wonderful time celebrating our nation's independence day! As we learned, God has given America a unique platform in world history to be declarers of His works and glory. As we think about our nation's history and seek to learn its lessons I'd like to look at Biblical History and learn some lessons there as well. Lessons grounded in humility, prayer and forgiveness and the glory of God. Let me show you what I mean.

Monday - Read 2 Chronicles 7:1-3. The temple has been completed and Israel as a nation has built a home for the presence of God. What is the first thing that happened as they are worshipping outside the temple? What is the people's response to the glory of God? The people affirm God's goodness in verse 3, what do they observe about God that would cause them to respond this way? Take some time now and thank God for his goodness to you, to your family and to our nation! May you always know that "he is good and that his steadfast love endures forever"!

Sunday, July 4, 2010

by Jason Whalen, Senior Pastor

Tuesday - Read 2 Chronicles 7:4-10. What is the general tone of the people during this time? Why is there such a celebration? As you read verse 10, how might you compare what you read to what God has done in our country? The passage gives all credit to the Lord for the people's joy and prosperity. Although we are always trusting God to provide, take some time and thank God for what he has provided, the freedoms we do enjoy and the prosperity that could be better BUT could also be much worse. May God cultivate gratitude in your heart today and always!

Wednesday - Read 2 Chronicles 7:11-13. What is it the Solomon has successfully completed? Take some time to read the prayer that is mentioned in verse 12 (2 Chronicles 6:40-42). What is Solomon asking the Lord to do in this prayer? How does God answer the prayer, what is His response? God is telling Solomon that I am ready to do all you've asked but these people also have a responsibility to respond, to be faithful and obedient to my will! Do you want God to bless you? What areas does he want you to grow your obedience, how is he calling you to respond to Him? God wants to pour out blessing upon those who follow him in everything!! May you be just that kind of person may we be that kind of nation!!

Thursday - Read 2 Chronicles 7:14-15. How does this verse relate to what the Lord shared with Solomon in verse 12-13! What is the context of this verse as it relates to the rest of chapter seven? Understanding that this is a promise specific to the nation of Israel, what similarities can you draw that will speak to our country? People are not naturally prayerful, humble or forgiving. These are things that must be cultivated in us. How can you demonstrate humility today! Find time to pray for our nation, its leaders and the church. May we be people quick to talk to God, quick to need him and always ready to forgive! This is the heart of the gospel and is our nations and any nations only hope. Take some time to pray right now as you feel led!!

Friday - Read 2 Chronicles 7: 16-18. What is God promising to do if they are willing to humble themselves? What is God saying to them in verse sixteen? What is the promise to Solomon in verse eighteen? What does this say about the character of God and the power of obedience? May God give you wisdom and strength to obey him so that your life is established by His grace and power!