

The Theocratic Nation of Israel: (part two of a three part study)

The larger context of 2 Chronicles 7:14 begins with Solomon, the son of David, being made king of Israel a second time (1 Chronicles 29:20-25). He begins his rule by seeking God's blessing at the tent of meeting in Gibeon. When God appears to Solomon, the new king asks Him for wisdom and is granted his request (2 Chronicles 1:1-13). With all his wealth and wisdom, Solomon embarks upon the building of the Temple in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 3:1-4:22). The Ark of the Covenant is then brought into the Temple, the glory of God fills it (2 Chronicles 5:1-14), and then Solomon offers a lengthy prayer of dedication (2 Chronicles 6:12-42). When he finishes praying, fire comes down from heaven and consumes the burnt offering and sacrifices, with the glory of the Lord filling the Temple (2 Chronicles 7:1-3). Additional sacrifices are then offered in conjunction with the Feast of Dedication and a solemn assembly (7:4-9). On the twenty third day, Solomon sends the people home (7:10). Then, God appears to Solomon again, issuing the combined warning and promise in 2 Chronicles 7:13-14, which continues through to v22; regarding the Temple and the king's reign over the theocratic nation of Israel.

What does any of the above have to do with the Church in the United States of America? Absolutely nothing! When was the last time you offered animal sacrifices in your church sanctuary or parking lot? Never? Good! Yet some very persuasive pied pipers and propagandists have torn this one verse completely out of the context in which it was given, in order to promote an unbiblical agenda of political activism, which contributes nothing whatsoever to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Of course, all Scripture is profitable, including 2 Chronicles 7:14. Certainly, humble repentance before God in prayer is as critical now as it was then, in restoring our relationship with God. Let's assume that you have repented of your sin and have been restored. Now what? How about obeying Matthew 28:18-20?

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Throughout Church history, there have been movements which have proven to be a disgrace to the cause of Christ. The current distortion and complete misapplication of 2 Chronicles 7:14, with its resulting hypnotic influence in leading so many Christians astray, is the most recent example of such a disgrace. It is high time for those leading the way in this movement, as well as the multitudes who have been unwittingly gulping their Kool-Aid, to come to their senses and repent.