

2 Chronicles 06 - Solomon's Speech Upon Completing Temple; Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

III. Solomon builds the temple (2 Chr 1:1—9:31)

(2) Solomon's temple (2 Chr 2:1—7:22)

(C) Temple dedication (2 Chr 5:1—7:22)

(c) Solomon's dedication prayer (6:1-42)

2 Chronicles 6

(c) Solomon's dedication prayer (6:1-42) (Cf. 1 Kings 8:12-21)

1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that He would dwell in the thick darkness.

1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that He would dwell in the thick cloud.

1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he lives shrouded in darkness.

1 Then said Solomon, The LORD hath said that he would dwell in the thick darkness.

2 "I have built You a lofty house, And a place for Your dwelling forever."

2 "I have built You a lofty house, And a place for Your dwelling forever."

2 Now I have constructed a magnificent temple dedicated to you that will serve as a place for you to inhabit forever."

2 But I have built an house of habitation for thee, and a place for thy dwelling for ever.

3 Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel was standing.

3 Then the king faced about and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel was standing.

3 Then the king turned to face the entire congregation of Israel while the congregation of Israel remained standing.

3 And the king turned his face, and blessed the whole congregation of Israel: and all the congregation of Israel stood.

4 He said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who spoke with His mouth to my father David, and fulfilled *it* with His hands, saying,

4 He said, "Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who spoke with His mouth to my father David and has fulfilled *it* with His hands, saying,

4 Then Solomon prayed:

"Blessed is the LORD God of Israel, who made a commitment to my father David and then personally fulfilled what he had promised when he said:

4 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Israel, who hath with his hands fulfilled that which he spake with his mouth to my father David, saying,

5 'Since the day that I brought My people from the land of Egypt, I did not choose a city out of all the tribes of Israel *in which* to build a house, so that My **name** might be there, nor did I choose a man to be *the* leader over My people Israel;

5 'Since the day that I brought My people from the land of Egypt, I did not choose a city out of all the tribes of Israel *in which* to build a house that My name might be there, nor did I choose any man for a leader over My people Israel;

5 'From the day I brought out my people from the land of Egypt I never chose a city from all the tribes of Israel to build a temple where my name might reside. And I never chose any man to become Commander-in-Chief over my people Israel.

5 Since the day that I brought forth my people out of the land of Egypt I chose no city among all the tribes of Israel to build an house in, that my name might be there; neither chose I any man to be a ruler over my people Israel:

- "...name" - 14x in this chapter and 14x elsewhere in 2 Chronicles, refers to God's attributes or presence (Cf. 1 Chr 13:6)

6 but I have chosen Jerusalem so that My name might be there, and I have chosen David to be over My people Israel.'

6 but I have chosen Jerusalem that My name might be there, and I have chosen David to be over My people Israel.'

6 But I have chosen Jerusalem, where my name will reside. And I have chosen David to be over my people Israel.'

6 But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and have chosen David to be over my people Israel.

7 Now it was in the heart of my father David to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

7 Now it was in the heart of my father David to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

7 "My father David wanted to build a temple for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

7 Now it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

8 But the LORD said to my father David, 'Because it was in your heart to build a house for My name, you did well that it was in your heart.

8 But the LORD said to my father David, 'Because it was in your heart to build a house for My name, you did well that it was in your heart.

8 The LORD told my father David:

'Therefore, since you determined to build a temple for my name, you acted well, because it was your choice to do so.

8 But the LORD said to David my father, Forasmuch as it was in thine heart to build an house for my name, thou didst well in that it was in thine heart:

- In God's sovereign will He chose Jerusalem to be the center and the capital of this earth. It will be that again some day.

— He chose Jerusalem for the place the temple would stand; He chose David to be the king, and now one in David's line. This is the absolute will of God making this choice.

9 Nevertheless you shall not build the house, but your son who will be born to you, he shall build the house for My name.'

9 Nevertheless you shall not build the house, but your son who will be born to you, he shall build the house for My name.'

9 Nevertheless, you are not to build the Temple, but your son who will be born to you is to build a temple for my name.'

9 Notwithstanding thou shalt not build the house; but thy son which shall come forth out of thy loins, he shall build the house for my name.

10 Now the LORD has fulfilled His word which He spoke; for I have risen in place of my father David and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

10 Now the LORD has fulfilled His word which He spoke; for I have risen in the place of my father David and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.

10 "The LORD has brought to fulfillment what he promised, and now here I stand, having succeeded my father David to sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised. I have built the Temple for the name of the Lord GOD of Israel.

10 The LORD therefore hath performed his word that he hath spoken: for I am risen up in the room of David my father, and am set on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built the house for the name of the LORD God of Israel.

11 There I have placed the ark in which is the **covenant** of the LORD, which He made with the sons of Israel."

11 There I have set the ark in which is the covenant of the LORD, which He made with the sons of Israel."

11 I have placed in it the ark in which the covenant that the LORD made with the Israelis is stored."

11 And in it have I put the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, that he made with the children of Israel.

- "...covenant" - the Mosaic Law, written on tablets of stone

Solomon repeated some of the promises in the Davidic Covenant publicly. His completion of the temple fulfilled part of what God had promised. Complete fulfillment required Solomon's continued faithfulness to God (1 Chr 28:9). Unfortunately, Solomon was not completely faithful, so some of those promises remained unfulfilled. Another Son of David would fulfill them later.

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication (Cf. 1 Kings 8:22-53)

12 Then he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands.

12 Then he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands.

12 Then Solomon took his place in front of the LORD's altar in the presence of the entire congregation of Israel and spread out his hands.

12 And he stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands:

13 For Solomon had made a bronze platform, five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the courtyard; and he stood on it, knelt on his knees in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven.

13 Now Solomon had made a bronze platform, five cubits long, five cubits wide and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court; and he stood on it, knelt on his knees in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven.

13 Solomon had a bronze platform constructed five cubits square and three cubits high. He had it erected in the middle of the courtyard, and stood on it. Then he knelt down on his knees in front of the entire congregation of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven,

13 For Solomon had made a brasen scaffold, of five cubits long, and five cubits broad, and three cubits high, and had set it in the midst of the court: and upon it he stood, and kneeled down upon his knees before all the congregation of Israel, and spread forth his hands toward heaven,

- After blessing the people, Solomon offered a dedicatory prayer (v14-42)

7 Petitions in Solomon's Prayer

- (1) God's presence and protection (v14)
- (2) Forgiveness of trespasses (v22-23)
- (3) Forgiveness for sins causing defeats from enemies (v24-25)
- (4) Forgiveness of sins that had brought on calamity (v26-31)
- (5) Mercy for God-fearing foreigners (v32-33)
- (6) Victory in battle (v34-35)
- (7) Restoration after captivity (v36-42)

14 He said, "LORD, God of Israel, there is no god like You in heaven or on earth, keeping Your covenant and Your faithfulness to Your servants who walk before You with all their heart;

14 He said, "O LORD, the God of Israel, there is no god like You in heaven or on earth, keeping covenant and *showing* lovingkindness to Your servants who walk before You with all their heart;

14 and said:

"LORD God of Israel, there is no one like you, God of heaven and earth, who watches over his covenant, showing gracious love to your servants who live their lives in your presence with all their hearts.

14 And said, O LORD God of Israel, there is no God like thee in the heaven, nor in the earth; which keepest covenant, and shewest mercy unto thy servants, that walk before thee with all their hearts:

God Keeps Promises (Cf. 1 Kings 8:24-30)

15 You who have kept with Your servant, my father David, that which You promised him; You have spoken with Your mouth and have fulfilled it with Your hand, as *it is* this day.

15 who has kept with Your servant David, my father, that which You have promised him; indeed You have spoken with Your mouth and have fulfilled it with Your hand, as it is this day.

15 It is you, LORD God, who has kept your promise to my father, your servant David, that you made to him. Indeed, you made a commitment to my father David and then personally fulfilled what you had promised today.

15 Thou which hast kept with thy servant David my father that which thou hast promised him; and spakest with thy mouth, and hast fulfilled it with thine hand, as it is this day.
- Solomon acknowledged that God had fulfilled some of the promises of the Davidic Covenant already, but he also saw that there were others that were yet unfulfilled

16 Now then, LORD, God of Israel, keep to Your servant David, my father, that which You promised him, saying, 'You shall not lack a man to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your sons pay attention to their way, to walk in My Law as you have walked before Me.'

16 Now therefore, O LORD, the God of Israel, keep with Your servant David, my father, that which You have promised him, saying, 'You shall not lack a man to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your sons take heed to their way, to walk in My law as you have walked before Me.'

16 "Now therefore, LORD God of Israel, keep your promise that you made to my father, your servant David, when you said, 'You are to not lack a man to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants will watch their lives, to live according to my Law, just as you have lived in my presence.'

16 Now therefore, O LORD God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that which thou hast promised him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit upon the throne of Israel; yet so that thy children take heed to their way to walk in my law, as thou hast walked before me.

17 Now then, LORD, God of Israel, let Your word be confirmed which You have spoken to Your servant David.

17 Now therefore, O LORD, the God of Israel, let Your word be confirmed which You have spoken to Your servant David.

17 "Now therefore, LORD God of Israel, may your promise that you made to your servant David be fulfilled...

17 Now then, O LORD God of Israel, let thy word be verified, which thou hast spoken unto thy servant David.

18 "But will God really dwell with mankind on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You; how much less this house which I have built!

18 "But will God indeed dwell with mankind on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You; how much less this house which I have built.

18 and yet, will God truly reside on earth with human beings? Look! Neither the sky nor the highest heaven can contain you! How much less this Temple that I have built!

18 But will God in very deed dwell with men on the earth? behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house which I have built!

- Solomon viewed God rightly, as both transcendent and immanent

19 Nevertheless, turn Your attention to the prayer of Your servant and to his plea, LORD, my God, to **listen** to the cry and to the prayer which Your servant prays before You;

19 Yet have regard to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to listen to the cry and to the prayer which Your servant prays before You;

19 Pay attention to the prayer of your servant and to his request, LORD my God, and listen to the cry and prayer that your servant is praying in your presence.

19 Have respect therefore to the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O LORD my God, to hearken unto the cry and the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee:

- "...listen" - occurs 5x in v19-21...and He will respond from heaven (Cf. v23,25,27,30,33,35,39), His true dwelling place (Cf. v30,33,39; 30:27)

20 that Your eye will be open toward this house day and night, toward the place of which You have said that *You would* put Your name there, to listen to the prayer which Your servant shall pray toward this place.

20 that Your eye may be open toward this house day and night, toward the place of which You have said that *You would* put Your name there, to listen to the prayer which Your servant shall pray toward this place.

20 Let your eyes always look toward this Temple day and night, toward the location where you have said you would place your name. Listen to the prayer that your servant prays in this direction.

20 That thine eyes may be open upon this house day and night, upon the place whereof thou hast said that thou wouldst put thy name there; to hearken unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward this place.

God Forgives Sinners (Cf. 1 Kings 8:31-51)

Justice (Cf. 1 Kings 8:31-32)

21 Listen to the pleadings of Your servant and of Your people Israel when they pray toward this place; hear from Your dwelling place, from heaven; hear and forgive.

21 Listen to the supplications of Your servant and of Your people Israel when they pray toward this place; hear from Your dwelling place, from heaven; hear and forgive.

21 Listen to the requests from your servant and from your people Israel as they pray in this direction, and listen from the place where you reside—from heaven!—then hear and forgive.

21 Hearken therefore unto the supplications of thy servant, and of thy people Israel, which they shall make toward this place: hear thou from thy dwelling place, even from heaven; and when thou hearest, forgive.

- Because Solomon spoke of the Israelites praying toward this place (6:21; Cf. v34,38), centuries later Daniel faced Jerusalem as he prayed (Dan 6:10)

22 "If someone sins against his neighbor and is made to take an oath, and he comes *and* takes an oath before Your altar in this house,

22 "If a man sins against his neighbor and is made to take an oath, and he comes *and* takes an oath before Your altar in this house,

22 "If a man sins against his neighbor and he is required to take an oath, and he then comes to take an oath in front of your altar in this Temple,

22 If a man sin against his neighbour, and an oath be laid upon him to make him swear, and the oath come before thine altar in this house;

23 then hear from heaven and take action and judge Your servants, punishing the wicked by bringing his way on his own head, and justifying the righteous by repaying him according to his righteousness.

23 then hear from heaven and act and judge Your servants, punishing the wicked by bringing his way on his own head and justifying the righteous by giving him according to his righteousness.

23 then listen from heaven, act, and judge your servants, recompensing the wicked by bringing back to him the consequences of his choices and by justifying the righteous by recompensing him according to his righteousness.

23 Then hear thou from heaven, and do, and judge thy servants, by requiting the wicked, by recompensing his way upon his own head; and by justifying the righteous, by giving him according to his righteousness.

Defeat and Capture (Cf. 1 Kings 8:33-34)

24 "If Your people Israel are defeated before an enemy because they have sinned against You, and they return *to You* and praise Your name, and pray and plead before You in this house,

24 "If Your people Israel are defeated before an enemy because they have sinned against You, and they return *to You* and confess Your name, and pray and make supplication before You in this house,

24 "If your people Israel are defeated in a battle with their enemy because they have sinned against you, when they return to you and confess to you, pray, and in this Temple they ask you to show grace to them,

24 And if thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy, because they have sinned against thee; and shall return and confess thy name, and pray and make supplication before thee in this house;

25 then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them back to the land which You have given to them and to their fathers.

25 then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them back to the land which You have given to them and to their fathers.

25 then hear from heaven, forgive the sin of your people Israel, and return them to the soil that you gave to them and to their ancestors.

25 Then hear thou from the heavens, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest to them and to their fathers.

Drought, Famine, Plague, Blight, Locusts and Siege (Cf. 1 Kings 8:35-40)

26 "When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, and they pray toward this place and praise Your name, and turn from their sin when You afflict them,

26 "When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, and they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin when You afflict them;

26 "When the skies remain closed, and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, and they pray in the direction of this place, confessing your name and turning from their sin when you afflict them,

26 When the heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; yet if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou dost afflict them;

27 then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants and Your people Israel; indeed, teach them the good way in which they are to walk. And provide rain on Your land, which You have given to Your people as an inheritance.

27 then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants and Your people Israel, indeed, teach them the good way in which they should walk. And send rain on Your land which You have given to Your people for an inheritance.

27 then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of your servants and of your people Israel. Indeed, teach them the best way to live and send rain on your land that you have given to your people as an inheritance.

27 Then hear thou from heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, when thou hast taught them the good way, wherein they should walk; and send rain upon thy land, which thou hast given unto thy people for an inheritance.

28 "If there is a famine in the land, if there is a plague, if there is blight or mildew, if there is locust or grasshopper, if their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities, whatever plague or whatever sickness *there is*,

28 "If there is famine in the land, if there is pestilence, if there is blight or mildew, if there is locust or grasshopper, if their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities, whatever plague or whatever sickness *there is*,

28 "If a famine comes to the land, or if there comes plant diseases, mildew, locusts, or grasshoppers, or if their enemies attack them in their settlements of the land, no matter what the epidemic or illness is,

28 If there be dearth in the land, if there be pestilence, if there be blasting, or mildew, locusts, or caterpillars; if their enemies besiege them in the cities of their land; whatsoever sore or whatsoever sickness there be:

29 whatever prayer or plea is made by anyone or by all Your people Israel, each knowing his own affliction and his own pain, and spreading his hands toward this house,

29 whatever prayer or supplication is made by any man or by all Your people Israel, each knowing his own affliction and his own pain, and spreading his hands toward this house,

29 whatever prayer or request is made, no matter whether it's made by a single man or by all of your people Israel, each praying out of his own illness and anguish and stretching out their hands toward this Temple,

29 Then what prayer or what supplication soever shall be made of any man, or of all thy people Israel, when every one shall know his own sore and his own grief, and shall spread forth his hands in this house:

30 then hear from heaven, Your dwelling place, and forgive, and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart You know—for You alone know the hearts of the sons of mankind—

30 then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart You know for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men,

30 then hear from heaven, the place where you reside, and forgive, repaying each person according to all of his ways, since you know their hearts—for you alone know the hearts of human beings—

30 Then hear thou from heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and render unto every man according unto all his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men:)

31 so that they may fear You, to walk in Your ways as long as they live in the land which You have given to our fathers.

31 that they may fear You, to walk in Your ways as long as they live in the land which You have given to our fathers.

31 so they will fear you and live life your way as long as they live in the land that you have given to our ancestors.

31 That they may fear thee, to walk in thy ways, so long as they live in the land which thou gavest unto our fathers.

Foreigners Within Israel (Cf. 1 Kings 8:41-43)

32 "Also concerning the foreigner who is not from Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country on account of Your great name and Your mighty hand and Your outstretched arm, when they come and pray toward this house,

32 "Also concerning the foreigner who is not from Your people Israel, when he comes from a far country for Your great name's sake and Your mighty hand and Your outstretched arm, when they come and pray toward this house,

32 "Now concerning the foreigner who is not from your people Israel, when he comes from a land far away for the sake of your great name, your mighty acts, and your obvious power, when they come and pray in the direction of this Temple,

32 Moreover concerning the stranger, which is not of thy people Israel, but is come from a far country for thy great name's sake, and thy mighty hand, and thy stretched out arm; if they come and pray in this house;

33 then hear from heaven, from Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, so that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name, and fear You as *do* Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name.

33 then hear from heaven, from Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name, and fear You as *do* Your people Israel, and that they may know that this house which I have built is called by Your name.

33 then hear from heaven where you reside, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the people of the earth may know your name, fear you as do your people Israel, and so they may know that this Temple that I have built is called by your name.

33 Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for; that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name.

In this prayer, there is plenty of evidence that Solomon understood God's purpose for Israel. He referred to God's name 14x, showing his concern for the reputation of Yahweh. His concern for foreigners (v32-33) shows that he realized that Israel was to reach out and share the knowledge and blessings of God with Gentiles. His concern for Israel's restoration and cleansing, following sin, shows that he realized Israel would need forgiveness in order to return to fellowship with God and fruitfulness as His servant.

War and Exile (Cf. 1 Kings 8:44-51)

34 "When Your people go out to battle against their enemies, by whatever way You send them, and they pray to You toward this city which You have chosen and the house which I have built for Your name,

34 "When Your people go out to battle against their enemies, by whatever way You shall send them, and they pray to You toward this city which You have chosen and the house which I have built for Your name,

34 "When your people go out to war against their enemies, no matter what way you send them, and they pray to you in the direction of this city that you have chosen and in the direction of the Temple that I have built for your name,

34 If thy people go out to war against their enemies by the way that thou shalt send them, and they pray unto thee toward this city which thou hast chosen, and the house which I have built for thy name;

- In a time of peace, Solomon prayed about Israel's future wars

— This is a subtle admission that Israel would squander their peace and God's presence by choosing sin instead of glory

35 then hear from heaven their prayer and their pleading, and maintain their cause.

35 then hear from heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

35 then hear their prayer and their request from heaven, and fight for their cause.

35 Then hear thou from the heavens their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.

- Solomon prayed that when God sent enemies to punish Israel's sins, he would hear Israel's repentant prayers and defend them against evil

36 "When they sin against You (for there is no one who does not sin), and You are angry with them and turn them over to an enemy, so that they take them away captive to a land far off or near,

36 "When they sin against You (for there is no man who does not sin) and You are angry with them and deliver them to an enemy, so that they take them away captive to a land far off or near,

36 “When they sin against you—because there isn’t a single human being who doesn’t sin—and you become angry with them and deliver them over to their enemy, who takes them away captive to a land that’s near or far away,

36 If they sin against thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near;

37 if they take it to heart in the land where they are taken captive, and repent and plead to You in the land of their captivity, saying, ‘We have sinned, we have done wrong and have acted wickedly’;

37 if they take thought in the land where they are taken captive, and repent and make supplication to You in the land of their captivity, saying, ‘We have sinned, we have committed iniquity and have acted wickedly’;

37 if they turn their hearts back to you in the land where they have been taken captive, repent, and pray to you—even if they do so in the land where they have been taken captive—confessing, ‘We have sinned, we have committed abominations, and practiced wickedness,’

37 Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly;

38 *if* they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, where they have been taken captive, and pray toward their land which You have given to their fathers and the city which You have chosen, and toward the house which I have built for Your name,

38 if they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, where they have been taken captive, and pray toward their land which You have given to their fathers and the city which You have chosen, and toward the house which I have built for Your name,

38 if they return to you with all of their heart and with all of their soul in the land where they have been taken captive, as they pray in the direction of their land that you have given to their ancestors and to the city that you have chosen, and to the Temple that I have built for your name,

38 If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name:

- Daniel opened his windows toward Jerusalem (the temple by that time had been destroyed), kneeled, and prayed to God three times a day (Dan 6:10). And God heard his prayer.

39 then hear from heaven, from Your dwelling place, their prayer and pleadings, and maintain their cause, and forgive Your people who have sinned against You.

39 then hear from heaven, from Your dwelling place, their prayer and supplications, and maintain their cause and forgive Your people who have sinned against You.

39 then hear their prayer and requests from heaven, where you reside, and fight for their cause, forgiving your people who have sinned against you.

39 Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee.

Full Commitment (Cf. 6:40–7:3; 1 Kings 8:52-53)

40 "Now, my God, please, let Your eyes be open and Your ears attentive to the prayer *offered* in this place.

40 "Now, O my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and Your ears attentive to the prayer *offered* in this place.

40 "And now, my God, please let your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers that are uttered in this place.

40 Now, my God, let, I beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.

41 "Now then arise, LORD God, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your might; let Your priests, LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let Your godly ones rejoice in what is good.

41 "Now therefore arise, O LORD God, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your might; let Your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation and let Your godly ones rejoice in what is good.

41 "And now may the LORD God arise, to your place of rest, you, and the ark of your power! Let your priests, LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and cause your godly ones to find their joy in what is good.

41 Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in goodness.

42 "LORD God, do not turn away the face of Your anointed; remember *Your* faithfulness to Your servant David."

42 "O LORD God, do not turn away the face of Your anointed; remember *Your* lovingkindness to Your servant David."

42 "LORD God, do not turn your face away from your anointed one. Remember your gracious love to your servant David."

42 O LORD God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant.

As always, things happened exactly as God said they would happen. After generations of increasing hardness and unrepentance, Israel was conquered and deported by Assyria in 722 BC. The Southern Kingdom, Judah, witnessed this but also refused to repent. In 586 BC, Jerusalem fell to Nebuchadnezzar, who also deported God's people out of their land. The exiled prophet Daniel knew through Jeremiah that Judah's exile would be 70 years (Jer 29:10). Daniel prayed to God as Solomon prophesied, confessed Israel's sins, and sought God's promised restoration (Dan 9:1-19). God heard and acted for His people. In 539 BC the Babylonian Empire fell to the Medo-Persian king Cyrus the Great. As Isaiah prophesied hundreds of years earlier (Is 44:28), Cyrus permitted the Jews to return to Judah to rebuild their temple—as Solomon had also prophesied (2 Chr 36:15-23; Ezra 1:1-4).