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The Next Great Awakening

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But that is a recipe for even more failure.

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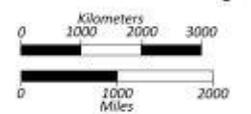
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World Map



- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Burundi | 10. Belgium | 19. Montenegro |
| 2. Malawi | 11. Bosnia and Herzegovina | 20. North Macedonia |
| 3. Rwanda | 12. Croatia | 21. Netherlands |
| 4. Armenia | 13. Czech Republic | 22. San Marino |
| 5. Azerbaijan | 14. Vatican City | 23. Serbia |
| 6. Bahrain | 15. Kosovo | 24. Slovenia |
| 7. Qatar | 16. Liechtenstein | 25. Switzerland |
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| 9. Andorra | 18. Maldives | |

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Why is that?

Because most in the West consider Christianity and a relationship with Jesus nothing more than a hobby.

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When it transforms a nation, it's a Great Awakening!

The Next Great Awakening

First Great Awakening – 1734

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But we are now primed for the Fifth (and possibly last) Great Awakening in our Nation.

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When the number of people who experience personal revival begins to grow, it changes families, communities, institutions, and nations.

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Let's look at that together.

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Solomon makes furnishings for the temple –

Chapter 4

The Context

Solomon brings in the Ark of the Covenant –
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The people offer sacrifices – 2 Chronicles 7:4-11

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Let's look at this together to see what God requires for personal revival and another Great Awakening.

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Note also, God is the One who chose the temple and Jerusalem as His dwelling place – 6:5-6

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Notice how God is bringing judgment to His people
and their land because of their sin.

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Is this what we have done as a nation?

And have we also done this as His church?

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And they should be the subject of our intense study.

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“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

These are His chosen from all generations. They do not make up the majority of any nation, but they are the most important demographic regarding the life and health of a nation.

Salt and Light

Salt and Light

“You are (present tense) the (definite article) salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor (lukewarm, apathetic, worldliness), how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.”

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If we refuse to bear fruit, “He takes away” and “he is cast out as a branch and withered”

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“You are (present tense) the (definite article) light of the world (*kósmos*). A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden (because of the light). Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

(You) Let your light so shine before (who) men, that they (men) may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

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Salt and Light

“You are (present tense) **the** (definite article) **light of the world** (*kósmos*). **A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden** (because of the light). **Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket**, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

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But there is a cost.

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Remember the example from John 15?

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After the vine and branches, Jesus says this:

Salt and Light

“If (since, because) the world (*kósmos*) hates (*miséō* – active ill will in words and conduct, a persecuting spirit) you, you know (*ginōskō*) that it hated (*miséō*) Me before it hated (*miséō*) you.”

John 15:18

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But that doesn't seem fair?

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Why can't we just live our lives in quiet solitude and contemplation and the world just leave us alone?

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I mean, I won't bother them if they won't bother me.

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Doesn't that seem fair?

Not to them.

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You forget, we are in a spiritual battle.

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Not to them. And not to the Lord either.

You forget, we are in a spiritual battle.

And they didn't treat our Lord that way.

Salt and Light

“Remember the word that I said to you,
‘A servant (*doúlos*) is not greater than his master.’
If (since, because) they (negative) persecuted Me,
(*then*) they will also (in the same manner) persecute
you. If (since, because) they (positive) kept My word,
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John 15:20

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Salt and Light

Did they persecute Jesus?

Salt and Light

Did they persecute Jesus?

Then what is the promise for each of us?

Salt and Light

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Then what is the promise for each of us?

So our choice is to live like Christ and face what is promised to come, or to hide our lamp under a basket, hoping no one will see the light.

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So our choice is to live like Christ and face what is promised to come, or to hide our lamp under a basket, hoping no one will see the light.

Which path will you choose?

Salt and Light

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Then what is the promise for each of us?

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Which path will you choose?

Which path leads to personal revival?

Salt and Light

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Then what is the promise for each of us?

So our choice is to live like Christ and face what is promised to come, or to hide our lamp under a basket, hoping no one will see the light.

Which path will you choose?

Which path leads to personal revival?

And without revival, there is no Great Awakening.

Salt and Light

Now, Jesus again wants us to know the battle is not about competing world views, or common morality, or abortion, homosexuality, civil rights, immigration, wealth distribution, social justice, or anything that detracts the believer from the real enemy.

Salt and Light

Now, Jesus again wants us to know the battle is not about competing world views, or common morality, or abortion, homosexuality, civil rights, immigration, wealth distribution, social justice, or anything that detracts the believer from the real enemy.

Our battle is spiritual, and it is against the forces of evil that control what we see happening all around us.

And spiritual battles must be fought with spiritual weapons, always!

Salt and Light

“But all these things (context) they will do to you (why) for My name’s sake, because they do not know (*eidō*) Him who sent Me.”

John 15:21

Salt and Light

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Those who killed Jesus did not know (*eidō*) the God they claimed to love and serve.

Let that sink in for a moment.

Salt and Light

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, (why) that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Ephesians 6:12-13

Salt and Light

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2 Chronicles 7:14

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“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

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And, if so, called to what exactly?

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What purpose did He redeem you for?

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To make a lot of money and buy nice things?

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To become an influencer and have people follow you?

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To make a lot of money and buy nice things?

To become an influencer and have people follow you?

To raise a big family and have lots of grandchildren?

2 Chronicles 7:14

“if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

To make a lot of money and buy nice things?

To become an influencer and have people follow you?

To raise a big family and have lots of grandchildren?

To “live long and prosper”?

2 Chronicles 7:14

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This is the area where we are given a choice to make, after a time of great self-examination.

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“Am I called by His Name?”

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“Am I called by His Name?”

Not positionally, but in practical application?

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Am I living out my calling?

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Am I living out my calling?

Am I giving honor to the name I bear?

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Am I living like a child of God, a bearer of His Name?

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So what does it mean to be “called by His Name”?

One, is the reality of salvation via election.

And two, is how we live out His choice of us
in this fallen world.

2 Chronicles 7:14

“In biblical times, a name was more than just a personal means of identification. Names conveyed authority. They showed character and issued promise. They even displayed a certain fate and/or destiny. Human names carried a great meaning, but God’s name encompassed His whole identity. It expressed His power and His omnipresence. Those called by His Name live to reflect that relationship.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

Which brings us to the conditions of maintaining that relationship in good standing.

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Let's look again at the "if" requirements.

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“if My people who are called by My name will (1) humble themselves, and (2) pray and (3) seek My face, and (4) turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

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This is something we are called to do.

2 Chronicles 7:14

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Is it simple?

2 Chronicles 7:14

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“pray”

“seek my face”

“turn from their wicked ways”

This is something we are called to do.

Is it simple? Yes.

2 Chronicles 7:14

“humble themselves”

“pray”

“seek my face”

“turn from their wicked ways”

This is something we are called to do.

Is it simple? Yes.

But it's also hard.

2 Chronicles 7:14

“humble themselves”

“pray”

“seek my face”

“turn from their wicked ways”

And revival, and later a Great Awakening, can only be brought about when we, “My people who are called by His name”, meet the “if” conditions.

2 Chronicles 7:14

“humble themselves”

“pray”

“seek my face”

“turn from their wicked ways”

There is so much more for us to discover about the healing power over the events in our nation that we have as children of our Father, but we will have to look at those next week.

