

2 Chron 7:14

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.

3 words I will like to isolate and focus on.

- If
- Seek
- Face

IF

“**If**”, means that the blessing of this passage are contingent on something. An act on our part

“**If**” also speaks of covenant of some kind between God and his people, in which both parties have a part to play

“If” also speaks of a factor that determines an outcome

The outcome is totally dependant on God, but the “if” part is totally dependant on us, you and me.

This verse tells us, that God has put a burden on his people, and this burden is to seek a his face

The Lord said to David seek Ye my Face and David’s response was thy face Lord will I seek. Psalm 27:8

What will be Our response to this Great and clear command.

Will we be like David and say, thy face Lord will I seek...

But let us not be too presumptuous.
What exactly are we looking for?

The first Question I have in my quest for the face of God is, how can I now what to look for when I have never seen what I am actual looking for. I have never seen the Face of God. I have seen faces before, but surely the Bible speaks of something different when it speaks of the Face of God. Surely it speaks of more than Just the Surface Space of a Mans head when it talks of the face of God.

Secondly I read passages Like Exodus 30: 22 that say, “No man shall see God and Live.”

Do I actually want to seek this.

Thirdly there are Storys of people who saw he face of God and did not Die. Moses spoke to God face to face, Abraham saw what he did not know was the face of God and fell on His Face and Jacob fought with God face to face.

What does this tell us about the Face of God

Face

There is a mystery here that intruugs me. But at the same time warns me that the Chasing of Gods faces is not something to be done Just because it is interesting. But is is something to be done with great understanding. For your very life is on the Line.

But I am intrigued by the (face of God) what is in it that God has hidden it from Men and revealed it to some other men. Other like Moses, Jacob and Abraham. What is it about the Face of God That the Lord speaking to David in Psalm 27:8 says “seek my face and David replied, thy face Lord Will I seek”

Surely there must be more than meets the Eye. Yes even a mystery in the Face of God. And Praise God! It does.

The Bible Uses the Word Face in a number of ways. I've identified 3

1. **The First** "Face" and the most obvious is the type that speaks of the surface of a thing,

This is used in Genesis 1: "The Spirit of Lord moved upon the face of the deep

And

Gen 8:9: That speaks of the water covering the "face" of the earth in the days of Noah

This is the type of Face we are uninterested in has Christians. Maybe has a scientist you might be fascinated

2. **The second** face is the face that speaks of the will, desire and emotions of Man

Gen 16:8 : Joseph flees from the face of his mistress

Eziek 25:2 : set thy face against the ammonites

Eziekle 3:8 I Have made thy face strong against their face

3.the third “face” is the face we are interested in, it is the face of God that speaks of the will of God

2Chron 7:14: if my people will seek my face... This face speaks completely and uniquely of the **Will of God**.

This passage should read, If my People will seek my **WILL!**

This understanding has totally revolutionised the way I read and understand the bible. My vision on the word of God has been greatly illuminated just through this understanding. That the **Face of God is the will of God**.

I understood for the first time what this verse meant: Exodus 33:20- Though cannot see my face, for there shall no man see my face and Live.

It mean you cannot seek the will of God and still Live for your own. Jesus Christ is our greatest example and who was the very will of God said, I have come to do the will of God. This ultimately meant death on the cross.

I also saw the meaning of seeming paradox of people who did see the face of God and still lived. I saw that there are degrees to the Face of God, and depending on how much you know of it or have seen on it, that is how much you must sacrifice

The encounter of:

Abraham:

Why did he Have to offer up His Son has a sacrifice(death) it is because he had seen

the Face of God in an eternal Covonant. I understand why he fell on His face when this was shown to him in a vision. It was because he was in greement with the will of God. But he passed the test also by fulfilling his part of the bargain by seeking the Will Has he walked up mount Horeb to kill his son in obedience.

Moses:

I understand why moses Hid his face when he heard the voice of the Lord Speaking from the bush. It was because he had been hiding from God ever since he fled Egypt and new it was time for what was his enivitable calling. Moses was unwilling. He took of His Shoes, but he had not Fallen on His Face.

Mosess calling and view of Gods Face was so huge and complete. That He was shown only a little at a time. He was a very fearfull and distrusting Charcacter. He wasn't Like Abraham that believed God could raise issaac fro the dead. He

questioned whether God will Bring them to the desert and Kill them.

Moses's commitment was the type that grew. He eventually grew in trust to the point on the mountain of Sinai. He said to God Show me Your Face. And God Said to him, no man can see my face and Live. But I will show you my Back.

What did Moses see when he saw the Back of God. It was on that mountain that he received the Law and some say he saw the will of God in the past.

Eventually Moses sat down and spoke to God face to Face. Will to Will. God described him as the humblest man that ever walked the Earth and distinguished him from other prophets by saying...

Eventually Moses Was commanded to "go and Die" this tells us again that there is a lot more than meets the Eye. Most people's lives are taken from them. But Moses

eventually learnt to die. Infact moses lived a life time of dieing till it culminated at his death at Mount Horeb

Jacob:

Was wilful, selfish covenant cheat (esau) and at the same time wanted Gods promise and blessing. He had a problem with everybody and everything. He even wrestled and faught with God.

Jacob faught with God one Night and Even God could not defeat him, This fight was not a physical fight, this fight was a fight of wills. he was that wilful and strong. Infact after the fight, Jacob was named Isreal, wich means that he strove with men and God and prevailed.

How does a man prevail against God? By not succumbing their will to His Will.

But prevailing in such a way is not the desire of God Nor Man. Because Jacob would not Let Him Go, till he was blessed by This person he Met.

This Person Blessed him by Giving Him an injury that meant he was to limp for the rest of his life. His power was permanently damaged. This was the Cost of the Blessing, wich is the will of God.

That's why I don't have a problem with those that seek the blessing, has long has they seek it earnestly. In so doing, the Lord will graciously make you pay the cost. How many of us want the will of God, but are not willing to submit to it.

Jacob called the place "Peniel" that means I have seen the face of God and yet my life was preserved.

What he did not know was that the coarse of his life was eternally changed. His

natural strength was put to death he even had a new name

Example of Paul

Paul was knocked off his horse and was blinded when he saw the Light. That light was the will of God. For he knew immediately that it was the Lord. He later said in the defence of his Apostleship that he did not consult any man when he started his ministry for Christ. He was clear because he had seen the face of God for Himself.

Paul wrote Later. I carry my cross daily, and also that “I count all things dung and Loss that I might Gain Christ”

This was a man that had a lot to live for. Now dieing for something or someone else.

Seek

If speaks of the covenant, wich is initited by God

Face speak of the Goal of wich we are to seek after. Both these are initited by God and owned by God.

So What is our responsibility! It is simply to seek. Seek. Seek!

To seek does not necessarily mean you will find, though you are promised you will find.

To seek successfully is not dependant on your finding the end of your chase. Because you can still be a successful seeker, but not necessarily a successful finder.

The heroes of our faith are commended, not because they achieved the end of their Chase, but because they took God up on

His contract and went on the Chase. Heb
11:39

To not be a successful finder is not your part of the Bargain. That is Gods! He owns the Face and he Gave the Contract. Ours is to seek Successfully.

So what is it to seek God successfully?

To seek speaks of a conciose pro active movement towards a Goal person or thing.

Paul writes in Philippians' 3:12 to 15

Not as though I had already attained, either were I ready perfect: but I follow after, that I might apprehend that for which I have been apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Brethren , I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind,

and reaching forth unto those things which are before

I press for the Mark of the high calling of God in Christ

Let us therefore, as many as have reached perfection be thus minded,

To seek continuously is the wisdom in avoiding becoming a monument.

Continues movement. This is what it means when Jesus said in Luke 9: 58
Foxes have holes, birds of the air have nest, but the son of Man has no place to rest a his head

Abraham was a tent dweller, who did not settle anywhere with concrete buildings, but dwelt in a tent, because he sought a city whose builder and maker is God Heb 11:14

Seeking is an attitude That is totally discarnated with the Status Quo. It's a

shame that the Church has become more a weopen for maintaining what is, instead of the Force working towards what can be.

Christians don't automatically have to be concervatives. They can also be revolutionary. When you seek God. You are seeking for something different to what you currently have. You re asking for total revolution.

Seekers travel light and sink their roots deep no ware on this earth. They invest into heavenly reality. They Invest into the city to Come. That is why Jesu said, Seek ye not after wealth that is here today and gone tomorrow, but seek after the wealth that is eternal were no moth or rust eat.

Seekers not wilful but soft and pliable. By this I mean we must be watchful and in state of Readiness: The Children of Isreal on their treck towards the Promise Land, Did not move until the cloud moved by day or the fire by night.

That means Gods Plan, may not fit our plans. Has movement could be in the night time.

He could also move us spontaneously. Part of the Christian armour is Shoe of readiness.

Importantly, you Must be prepared to loose yourself in the chase. You must be prepared to fall on your Face. Like the 24 elders that stand in the presence of God and do that continually, saying Holy, Holy, Holy, is God.

Most importantly :One must believe: Heb 11:6

Dangers of not seeking or improper seeking

Children of Israel: Hypocritically seeking the will of God **Isaiah 58**

Example of Lots wife: settled

The Orthodox Church: become monument instead of Movement. I'm especially nervous in environments where there is no movement. We have Tea drinking Church!

The promise to the seeker

God is a covenant Keeping God: Seek me and you will find me, but seek me with all your heart Jer 29:13

God is not a Liar: Let God be true and every man a liar. You can trust the promise of God.

Ministry:

- Maybe your struggling with trust like Abraham and you question, how can I have a baby when I am old

- Or fear and cowardice like Moses and you hide your face from God
- Or you are Wilful like Jacob and you fight God.

God delt with Abrahm, Moses and Jacob and he can deal with any one.

Heb 10:32: We are not of those that turn back and perish. But we are of those that press on to the Finnish.

I have determind to seek the face of God, I need you do the same, so we can seek him together and find him together and enjoy the blessings together.