

Purposeful Postures in Prosperity
Laity Sunday
2 Chro 7: 14-22

Pentecost Methodist Church

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2 Chron 7: 11 - 21

11 When Solomon had finished the temple of the Lord and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the Lord and in his own palace, 12 the Lord appeared to him at night and said:

“I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices.

13 “When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people,

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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chron 7: 11 - 21

15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. 16 I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

17 “As for you, if you walk before me faithfully as David your father did, and do all I command, and observe my decrees and laws, 18 I will establish your royal throne, as I covenanted with David your father when I said, ‘You shall never fail to have a successor to rule over Israel.’

19 “But if you turn away and forsake the decrees and commands I have given you and go off to serve other gods and worship them, 20 then I will uproot Israel from my land, which I have given them, and will reject this temple I have consecrated for my Name. I will make it a byword and an object of ridicule among all peoples. 21 This temple will become a heap of rubble. All who pass by will be appalled and say, ‘Why has the Lord done such a thing to this land and to this temple?’ 22 People will answer, ‘Because they have forsaken the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who brought them out of Egypt, and have embraced other gods, worshiping and serving them—that is why he brought all this disaster on them.’”

Christian life is not about superficial change but a transformation of life.

We cannot remain the same.

A. Introduction

1. Solomon was a great king: Prayerful Leader, Great Builder, Conquering Warrior
2. National event: King, priests and people were prostrating in worship

A. Introduction

3. Israel's prosperity at its highest.

- a. 22,000 cattle & 120,000 sheep (v 5)
- b. Biggest offering: Bronze altar could not grain offerings & fat portions (v 7)
- c. Largest gathering of people

4. Largest temple and most opulent palace was built

5. God's glory filled the temple

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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

“Prosperity is only an instrument
to be used
not a deity to be worshipped.”

#1

Posture of God's Image:
Reflecting His Character
“who are called by my Name”

God's Covenant:

“I will be your God and you will be
my people.”

Durian – How to cheat as durian seller

#1

Sell durians with 'open mouth'
Insects/worms would have gone in.

#2

Covered up rotten parts of
durian with leaves

#3

Opening only the ripe side of the durian

#4

Cheating on the weighing machine
by pressing on durian

The epicenter of greatness
should be believers reflecting the character
And glory of God!

We must set standards of:

- Goodness
- Kindness
- Generosity
- Hard Work
- Creativity and

In everything

In all areas of life

#2

Posture of Humility:
Recognizing we are servants
“will humble themselves”

Humility is idea of submission
An other-centeredness.

Only self-centered people
become arrogant.

While other-centered people are
usually humble.

Leadership Dialogue

With

Hannah Yeoh, Deputy Minister for Welfare & Family
Services

Yeo Bee Yin, Minister for Energy, Technology, Science,
Climate Change & Environment

Yeo Bee Yin:
Serving the People
“Making the right choice for
this generation.
Doing what is right.”

Transition from state
assembly to be full
minister: Feeling very
powerful.

Yeo Bee Yin:

Going for official trip, no
need to go through normal
immigration and scanning.

Official come to receive her.
Keep pulling her bag.

With all the trappings,
how a person of power can
actually lose the calling?

Yeo Bee Yin:

“Stay grounded:

Do the best I can and fulfill my calling.

Wherever and in whatever position,

we are to fulfill a certain mission,

fulfill our assignment faithfully and excellently

and willing to go the extra mile

to serve the people.”

#3

Posture of Dependency:
Recognize our need for God
“and pray”

Hannah Yeoh
State Assembly to Speaker of the House in
Selangor
Youngest, First Woman Speaker

Hannah Yeoh

Should always be in a place of insufficiency.

It's a good place

First 2 months as Speaker!

Needing to prove herself.

All eyes are watching.

Learning to trust God

Hannah Yeoh
End of 5th year –
Getting complacent & comfortable.
Stagnant.

Hannah Yeoh

Went to fight for a seat in Federal Parliament.
Deputy Minister for Welfare & Family Services
Social problems will not go away.

Very inadequate.

Connect more with God.

Asking God to help me everyday.

Hannah Yeoh

*“We must always be in a place of insufficiency,
recognizing our need for God everyday.
Complacency and comfort kill that need.”*

“Self-sufficiency suffocates gratitude and
breeds arrogance”

#4

Posture of God's Presence:
Recognizing that God wants you.
'Seek my Face'

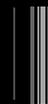
Children have simple taste:
They want YOU!

God has a simple taste:
He wants YOU!

#5

Posture of Repentance: Pursue Holiness
“Turn from their wicked ways”

Perfection is an impossibility.
In the pursuit of perfection,
we experience drops of
perfection.



“Be holy as I am holy”
In the pursuit of God’s holiness,
we experience drops of His holiness

Conclusion:

God will hear, forgive & heal!

*“then I will hear from heaven,
and I will forgive their sin and
will heal their land.”*

Conclusion:
God's covenant is life, peace &
righteousness!