Sermon Notes
September 28, 2025

2 Chronicles 7 14 Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.

2 Chronicles 7 11 So Solomon finished the Temple of the LORD, as well as the royal palace. He completed everything he had planned to do in the construction of the Temple and the palace. 12 Then one night the Lord appeared to Solomon and said,

> "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this Temple as the place for making sacrifices. 13 At times I might shut up the heavens so that no rain falls, or command grasshoppers to devour your crops, or send plagues among you. 14 Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land. 15 My eyes will be open and my ears attentive to every prayer made in this place.

Acts 17 16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was deeply troubled by all the idols he saw everywhere in the city. 17 He went to the synagogue to reason with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles, and he spoke daily in the public square to all who happened to be there. 18 He also had a debate with some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers. When he told them about Jesus and his resurrection, they said, "What's this babbler trying to say with these strange ideas he's picked up?" Others said, "He seems to be preaching about some foreign gods. 19 Then they took him to the high council of the city. "Come and tell us about this new teaching," they said. 20 "You are saying some rather strange things, and we want to know what it's all about." 21 (It should be explained that all the Athenians as well as the foreigners in Athens seemed to spend all their time discussing the latest ideas.) 22 So Paul,

standing before the council, addressed them as follows: “Men of Athens,
I notice that you are very religious in every way, 23 for as I was walking
along I saw your many shrines. And one of your altars had this
inscription on it: ‘To an Unknown God.’ This God, whom you worship
without knowing, is the one I’m telling you about. 24 “He is the God
who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and
earth, he doesn’t live in man-made temples, 25 and human hands can’t
serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to
everything, and he satisfies every need. 26 From one man he created all
the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when
they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries. 27 “His
purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way
toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of
us. 28 For in him we live and move and exist. As some of your own
poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’ 29 And since this is true, we
shouldn’t think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or
silver or stone. 30 “God overlooked people’s ignorance about these
things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to
repent of their sins and turn to him. 31 For he has set a day for judging
the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to
everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.” 32 When they heard
Paul speak about the resurrection of the dead, some laughed in contempt,
but others said, “We want to hear more about this later.” 33 That ended
Paul’s discussion with them, 34 but some joined him and became
believers.

The altar is open