

## Greetings from Family

Kampala Return to God Mission 15<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2017. It is a responsibility of churches in the city.

- Isaiah 55 cloth Market
- Accommodation
- Food
- Trucks and PA

## Let us seek God for the healing of our land

*12 Then the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice. 13 When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, 14 if my people who are called by my name 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. 15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. 2 Chronicles 7:12-15*

- ✚ Context is the dedication of Solomon's Temple
- ✚ God is making a commitment to dwell among His people

- ✚ He also is enlisting a commitment among the Israelites: That they may walk with Him, that He might be the One they seek to honour.

## 1.0 Does our Land need healing?

In our text we see the following:

- ✚ Shutting up the heavens
- ✚ Locusts devouring the land
- ✚ Pestilence among the people

Notice that God was saying to Solomon, that it will be Me doing these things.

I think that in this modern or postmodern we have researched explanations for everything, intimating that God is not involved with life on earth!

Uganda's symptoms of sickness

- This drought this year seems 'sponsored' - pics of cattle dying in Rwebisengo remained with me. In January we had enjoyed beef from those cows during Rwenzori Diocese Renewal Conference
- Banana weevils and maize caterpillars - Our Lusuku that has lasted a long time

- c) Economic challenges - we have more and better educated people, we are getting more taxes, but all that is not working?
- d) Murder and prostitution
- e) Cohabitation turned marriage and the violence! Women beating men. All types of unthinkable things.

Uganda may well be under God's judgement. Our land needs Divine intervention. Without Jesus, we are doomed!

## 2.0 Seeking the Lord

"A French philosopher who visited our shores when America was a new young nation left a similar warning. Alexis De Tocqueville said he came to the United States to learn what magic quality enabled a handful of people to defeat the mighty British Empire twice in 35 years. He looked for the greatness of America in her harbors and rivers, her fertile fields and boundless forests, mines and other natural resources. He studied America's schools, her Congress, and her matchless Constitution without comprehending America's power. Not, until he went into the churches of America and heard pulpits "afame with righteousness" did he understand the secret of her genius and strength. De Tocqueville returned to France and wrote: "America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good,

America will cease to be great." John Stormer, Death of a Nation, 1968

Humility, prayer, and repentance

- a) Returning to the Lord. Turning away from idolatry and all forms of disobedience.

In Uganda we have to deal with the issue secularism. We are increasingly believing too much in the intellectuals and the rich - people and nations with money.

It also entails returning to the Lord from acts of disobedience

- b) Prayer and repentance. Forsaking the evil waysa

Prophet Joel puts it this way:

***15 Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;***

***16 gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber.***

***17 Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword***

*among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" Joel 2:15-17*

- c) Aligning our lives with God's principles of righteousness and justice - integrity, social justice, etc Isaiah 58 makes this point

### 3.0 Connecting with Jesus the Healer

*25 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, 26 and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. 28 For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." 29 And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Mark 5:25-29*

- i. Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice. Because of His death and resurrection, we can be healed.

*5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. Isaiah 53:5*

✚ He deals with all the effects of iniquity. Its effect on our physical lives and communities. When Jesus is welcomed in a warring and dysfunctional home He brings healing.

- ii. Jesus as the reconciler - He is the mediator between God and Man. Uganda needs Jesus. Uganda must be in a right relationship with Jesus. Especially those who have walked away from God in disobedience, Jesus can reconcile you to Him. **Those who feel like they have betrayed God, He will do for you what He did for that thief on the cross.**
- iii. You need to connect with Jesus personally - touch His garment, He only heals those who reach out intentionally - those of His own town were not as blessed. Do not miss the blessings of the Savior-Healer because of familiarity of religious tradition
- iv. Jesus brings us into that living and on-going relationship: ***15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. 2 Chronicles 7:12-15***