

You can be back in your own land after 70 years of captivity as were the Jews returning from Babylon. You can be back in your holy city, Jerusalem, and not have faith. You can see your beloved Temple rebuilt, at least in part, and still not love your God and practice your faith. But when the Law is read and embraced, revival comes. When revival comes, repentance is present. Let’s look at a part of this prayer for repentance and see how it relates to us.

- I. **Recitation of God’s Goodness** vv. 6-15
  - A. Of what God is (v.6)
  - B. Of what God did (vv.7-8)
  
- II. **Reality of Man’s Sinfulness** vv. 16-17

Sin in the midst of all of God’s goodness!

  - A. Process of that sinfulness
    - “Dealt proudly...” (v.16)
    - Result of that pride – they “hardened their necks...” (v.16)
    - “Harkened not to God’s commandments” (v.16)
    - “Refused to obey...” (v.17)
    - “Failed to see the wonders of God...” (v.17)
  - B. Penalty for that sinfulness
    - 40 years of wilderness wandering
    - Galatians 6:7-8
  
- III. **Revelation of God’s Grace** vv. 17b-21
  - Grace made manifest even while we’re afflicted with sin.

Conclusion: Dr. Alan Redpath in Victorious Christian Service urges reflection on God’s goodness. When this is done, “I think we could come to the conclusion that God’s mercy with a sinner is only equaled and perhaps outmatched by His patience with the saints.”