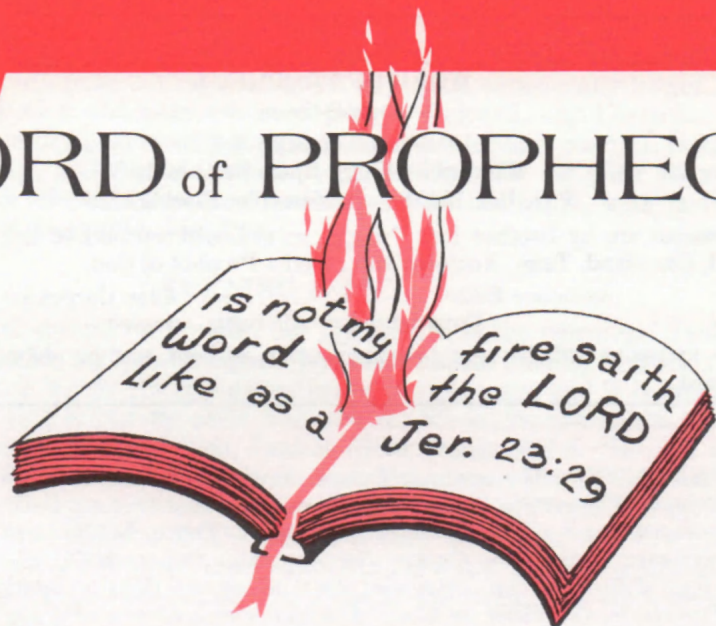


# WORD of PROPHECY



RADI - 0 - GRAM

May-June, 1978

TWO GREAT HOLY GHOST REVELATIONS



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Warninas  
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TO AMERICA'S SICK SOCIETY  
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**\* PRACTICAL FASTING AND PRAYER**

*How To Save Ourselves*

**WORD OF PROPHECY**

**Radi-O-Gram**

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Associate Editor . . . . . June Carpenter

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This magazine will be sent to you monthly without cost or obligation upon request.

*THE COVER: The scene is from a revelation by the Lord to Brother Pringle. The setting is our nation's capitol, Washington, D.C. God has revealed that a mighty demon, a messenger of Satan, has taken permanent residence in the U.S. Capitol Building beginning in 1955. This mighty angel of darkness has influenced the thinking and decision making of our Presidents, the Supreme Court Justices, and members of Congress ever since. No wonder our president is confused - our national policies defeating. We're destroying ourselves by demonic design!*

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## DESTROYING OURSELVES

Some 25 centuries ago through His prophet, God warned the nation of Israel: "O Israel, **thou hast destroyed thyself**; but in me is thine help. I will be thy king; where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities?" Hosea 13:9-10. Now God was speaking to a nation which had long enjoyed "favored status" under a divine umbrella of His material blessings and of His infinite guardianship. God said, "when Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt." Hosea 11:1. Also: "Yet I am the Lord thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me. I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought. According to their pasture, **so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me.**" Hosea 13:5-6. What a striking parallel with the spiritual decay and rebellious moral degeneracy in America at this very moment as we witness in shock our power declining, and our descent into God's judgments. Again God's prophet cried, "**For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind.**" Hosea 8:7.

### O AMERICA, HEARKEN!

God cried through His true prophets of old, and still God cries through His true prophet: "O Israel (America), return unto the Lord, thy God; **for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity** (rebellion). Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips. Asshur shall not save us." Hosea 14:1-2. God's condition of mercy to America as well as the judgment-bound nation of Israel is only **REPENTANCE**. He says to Israel, "Your military alliances with Asshur and other nations will not save you — return to me! Repent or perish!"

Listen America! Hear Me church! We have had favored status with our God for over two centuries — God has had an umbrella of divine favor over us, but He has warned America! "At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; **If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.**" Jeremiah 18:7-10! Neither our military alliances, nor our nuclear arsenal, nor our powerful armies, nor our economic and political detente can save us — **we are destroying ourselves!** We have rebelled against our God and His inexorable laws! God's laws, when ignored and arrogantly broken, like the mighty tides of the sea, sweep men and nations into great judgments. This is a moral universe, and it is ruled by God's moral laws. Whatsoever a man or nation sows, it shall also reap! We've sown to the wind, and we shall reap the whirlwind. Galatians 6:7-8; Hosea 8:7.

### AMERICA'S GREATNES.'

During the middle of the Nineteenth Century, Alexis de Tocqueville was French Ambassador to America. In his own words, de Tocqueville wrote of this experience: "I sought for the answer to the greatness of America. I sought



her greatness in her cities, her factories, her rivers and lakes, her mountains, her waterfalls, her seaports and halls of government. I did not truly understand the greatness of America until I visited her churches and witnessed her pulpits aflame with righteousness." Then he continued to make this prophetic observation: "America is great because she is good — if America ever ceases to be good, then she will cease to be great." Remember, this prophetic observation was made in the 1830's.

What has happened to our goodness? O America, God says, "Your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away." Hosea 6:4. God has decreed: "**Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.**" Proverbs 14:34. Our nation is gravely ill from moral decay and spiritual decadence. We are spiritually bankrupt! The pulpits of America are not aflame with righteousness — this source of our greatness has been discovered by the devil and has been corrupted. The thundering voices of God's true prophets have been silenced until there is only a whisper against the sins and rebellion which are destroying us.

### OUR SICK SOCIETY

In our pagan society of perverts, immorality, nudity, drunkenness, dope addiction, violence, lying and cursing, cheating and stealing, exotic pleasure, and idolatry of all flavors — is there anything good that God will accept? NO! "The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint (i.e., the leaders). From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it, but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment." Isaiah 1:5-6. This morbid condition is destroying us from within, and even the church has been invaded by an accompanying spiritual malaise and vertigo, rendering it impotent against this deadly rapprochement with the world.

Very recently (1977), a Korean diplomat made this observation about Christianity today in America, almost a century and a half since de Tocqueville: "I am confused about Christianity in America. I cannot tell the difference between the Christians and the non-Christians." My God, what a censure from a stunned foreigner who expected Christ to be manifested in America, of all places, by His disciples. What this diplomat witnessed is a national disgrace — 95% of professing Christians today do live like the world! This polluted spiritual condition is deadly — we are destroying ourselves!

God cries out to America: "Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, **til he come and rain righteousness upon you.** Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: **because thou didst trust in thy way**, in the multitude of thy mighty men." Hosea 10:12-13. Jesus has warned us to seek after the strait and narrow<sup>T</sup> way that leads to life and peace, while carefully avoiding the broad and wide road that leads men and nations into ruin and destruction. Matthew 7:13-14. Our national motto, "In God We Trust" was emblazoned on our currency and our national institutions by our founding fathers during our nation's infancy, in solicitation of divine favor. Divine favor was granted this great republic under God's guidance, but, as God reprov'd Israel in her declining days, so God now<sup>7</sup> w<sup>r</sup>arns America: "I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought. According to their pasture, **so**



were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted: therefore have they forgotten me . . . 0 Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; hut in me is thy help." Hosea 13:5-6, 9.

Let America remember God's threat of divine judgment upon us: "At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation (as America), and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it (God has done this to America); **If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.**" Jeremiah 18:9-10. This is America! Let me remind you, America, the highways of history are strewn with the debris and ruins of nations that forgot God and rebelled against His word!

Doesn't the following sound like a description of our own sick society as written by God's prophet some 25 centuries ago? '**Thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness . . .** they have perverted their way, and they have forgotten the Lord their God . . . we lie down in our shame, and our confusion covereth us: **for we have sinned against the Lord our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even unto this day, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God.**" Jeremiah 3:2, 21, 25.

God made Israel, a nation with favored status in His sight, an example to all other nations who would rebel against God — thus destroying themselves. Israel's sins and perversions — her subsequent chastening and judgment of God upon her are America's example. Let us take heed.!

God warned Israel's sick society: "How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: **when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery,** and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. **They were as fed horses in the morning; every one neighed after his neighbor's wife.** Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?" Jeremiah 5:7-9. God is warning America's sick society and a worldly, debilitated church: "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; **or else** I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick (i.e., I'll turn your light into darkness) out of his place, **except thou repent.**" Revelation 2:5.

If God doesn't sorely and severely punish America and this end-time, worldly church for their rebellion and abominations, He will have to call back Sodom and Gomorrah and apologize to that society which perished by divine judgment. Our nation, morally and spiritually, has more depravity than Sodom — with over 20 million homosexuals, and over 5 million abortions annually — perversion and shedding of innocent blood have defiled our great land. God forewarned the newly-created nation of Israel whom He was bringing out of Egypt into a land of milk and honey: "For all these abominations (i.e., perversions, etc.) have the men of the land done, which was before you, and the land is defiled; (God said, Don't you commit these sins) That the land spue not you out also, when ye defile it, as it spued out the nations that were before you." Leviticus 18:27-28.

Amid the filthy conversation of this totally corrupt and pagan American society, committing sins that are legal, but that are in defiance of God's laws — amid immodestly dressed and rebellious women, two-timing husbands, cursing children — amid smoking, drinking, gambling, and revelling — amid the debris



of broken homes mingled with violence and rebellion against all authority, what can a true saint of God do? Psalms 11:3. God's true saints must sound off before it's too late and demand that their pastors preach righteousness, holiness, repentance, the fear of God, and the judgments of God. Obedience to God's Word must be loudly and fearlessly proclaimed from the pulpits of America again. God's people must contend with their preachers about this vital matter. Saints, you pay the preacher, so demand that he preach the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

### OUR HIDDEN STRENGTH

The wolf (i.e., the devil) is loose and among us. Our pulpits are not aflame with righteousness. As God's wise man wrote: "And moreover I saw under the sun the place of judgment, that wickedness was there; **and the place of righteousness, that iniquity was there.**" Ecclesiastes 3:16. What a sad state of affairs for any nation or individual! The Holy Ghost warned of our day — about unfaithful preachers and churches-goers: "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine (i.e., won't listen to the truth); but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers (or preachers, i.e.) having itching ears; **And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**" II Timothy 4:3-4. Our strength lies in the preaching of righteousness from our pulpits by holy men of God anointed with the fire of the Holy Ghost. "He that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully . . . **Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?**" Jeremiah 23:28-29. Does not the word of God still cut like a sword and make men tremble when fully preached? YES! The devil knows this and has turned many preachers away from God's Word to story-telling and entertainment as substitutes. As the Apostle Paul preached of "righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled." Acts 24:25; Hebrews 4:12.

**The devil hates holiness and godliness.** Samson was God's anointed deliverer as long as he lived holy and separate from the world. No enemy could stand before that anointed judge of Israel so long as he lived holy — but the enemies of God vowed to find the secret of his strength and destroy this nemesis of their unrighteousness. "We'll use Delilah," they counselled (i.e., the world). You see, God and the world don't mix — they're incompatible; they won't co-exist! The devil knows this, but alas, the church doesn't! Delilah found out the secret of Samson's strength which led to his destruction — his anointing left and Samson, God's mighty deliverer, became just as any other man. Samson said to Delilah, "I have been a Nazarite (i.e., Spirit-Anointed) unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man . . . so, she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head . . . **and his strength went from him . . . and he wist not that the Lord was departed from him.**" Judges 16:19-20. God is still the same! Malachi 3:6. So is the devil!

Pleasure and affluence have all but ruined the church of this judgment-bound generation. We are destroying ourselves! Church-goers today are exactly like the people of God in Israel as they plummeted into apostasy and judgment. The prophet cried out for God to them: "This is a rebellious



people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, **Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits.**" Isaiah 30:9-10. Compromising preachers are responsible for our nation's degeneracy and spiritual decline. America will be strong again **only** when holy men of God will preach repentance, the fear of God, hell-fire, holiness, and judgment, by the Holy Ghost's anointing!

### THE OBITUARY OF A GREAT NATION WHICH DESTROYED ITSELF!

America is an enigma to the whole world as our enemies and friends alike behold the dissipation of our energies and virtues in a life-style that is more like animals than of men created in the image of God. These are witnesses to a tragic drama — watching as we destroy ourselves from inner decay, amid rising violence and crime. An entire book of our Holy Bible was written of a once godly nation that died from inner decay and violence — the obituary of Israel, written in the Lamentations of Jeremiah, Israel's weeping prophet.

"How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people! how is she become as a widow! **she that was great among the nations**, and princess among the provinces, how is she become tributary! She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her: **all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies** (this is happening to the USA) . . . the Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy. And from the daughter of Zion all her beauty is departed . . . Jerusalem hath grievously sinned; therefore she is removed: **all that honored her despise her, because they have seen her nakedness** (this is America's spiritual plight); yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward. Her filthiness is in her skirts; she remembered not her last end; therefore she came down wonderfully: she had no comforter." Lamentations 1:1-9. What were the underlying causes of this judgment from the Lord upon Israel (or upon America)? In the words of the prophet is the answer found: **"Thy prophets (preachers) have seen vain and foolish things for thee: and they have not discovered thine iniquity** (i.e., rebellion against God's Word), to turn away thy captivity; but have seen for thee false burdens and causes of banishment." Lamentations 2:14. This sounds just like today's religious folly — "do something religious, but don't live a holy, sanctified life in the fear of God" — but, God won't accept anything less than holiness and godliness. Another prophet of God had warned Israel of their rebellion: "Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction." Micah 2:10.

Again the prophet Jeremiah lays his indictment at the pulpit --- why did isreal die internally, and was led into captivity and painful banishment from Gods favor? Answer: "for the sins of her prophets, and the iniquities of her priests( preachers ), **that have shed the blood of the just in the midst of her.**" Lamitations 4:13. further the prophet lamented, "Our fathers have sinned, and are not(i.e., they're dead); and we have borne their iniquities (i.e., we are reaping what our rebellious preachers and parents sowed)." Lamitations 5:7. in a few years, our beloved nation will be in Gods terrible judgments.



and the blood of the just (saints) will be shed here in our beloved land that rebellious Americans have defiled. We have lost our favored status with God, and, we're destroying ourselves!

### BLINDNESS

Why can't clergymen and politicians find the paths that lead to peace and favor with God? Answer: Rebellion against God's Word! Just before His death, Jesus stood on the mount overlooking rebellious Jerusalem and wept saying, "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day; the things which belong unto thy peace! **but now they are hid from thine eyes** (i.e., they went spiritually blind by their rejection of His message). For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation." Luke 19:41-44! Time ran out for those rebellious Jews 37 years later — and even now, we Americans are living on borrowed time! How long can the intercession of God's righteous saints hold back the thundering judgments of God? Not much longer! If you are not living a holy life, you will soon be severely punished by the Lord through His great judgments. Isa. 26:9, 16; Matt. 24:8-10.

In a mighty revelation to me as illustrated on the front cover of this magazine, God has revealed from where the confusion, frustration, and blindness of politicians and preachers emanate — from a mighty prince of the devil, Satan's messenger who resides in our nation's capitol! This angel of the devil is a mighty prince of darkness that is giving counsel to our national leaders in government and religion, leading to what Jesus predicted would prevail among nations and their leaders here in the end-time: "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; **and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity** (i.e., pressures and problems to which there are no known solutions); the sea and the waves roaring (i.e., violence); Men's hearts failing them for fear; and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:24-26. This evil spirit in our nation's capitol perverts and confuses the plans of our leaders in domestic and foreign policy by whispering counsel in their ears that is divisive and weakening — plans and policies that run counter to God's Word and His righteousness. Our leaders have abrogated God's favored status for us as a nation and we're being led into self-imposed destruction from within — it will not come from Russia or result from any outside force of aggression.

God's holy prophet has warned us: **"For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed."** Isaiah 9:16. Beloved, can you not see that this is what's happening? We are being led on a collision course with the catastrophic judgments of a holy God outraged by our rebellion and abominations.

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*Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth:  
for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong  
judgment proceedeth.* Hab. 1:4.



Our President, Congress, and Supreme Court consistently err in judgment, in policy-making, and in law-making, because their vision is limited and their planning confused by this gargantuan demon that has been assigned to misguide them by God's mighty adversary, Satan. This demon's strategy is tragically mis-leading many politicians and preachers to support the Equal Rights Amendment that will bring total ruin to an already sick and pagan society. Why can't our present President see our problems and their solutions clearly? Answer: Satan, the god of this world hath blinded his mind. II Corinthians 4:3-4. Why are we disarming before our enemies, the Communists? Our leaders are blind, and they counsel with others who are equally misguided by the devil's cunning messenger. Why have our eminent economists misguided our last five presidents and Congress into a disastrous economic policy, leading our nation into a spiraling inflation that will culminate into a terrible recession within the next 5 years? They have been avid to Satan's counsel — they have rejected God's Word and there is no light in them. They seek not to the Lord for counsel but to wizards, fortune tellers, sorcerers, and to astrologers. Isaiah 8:19-20! The "almighty" U.S. dollar will soon be virtually worthless and thrown in the streets as the prophets have foretold (Ezekiel 7:19) because of the policies of our blind and misguided politicians, economists, and financial experts. What are blind and selfish Christians going to answer God when this comes to pass when they will be severely judged for hoarding God's money until it becomes worthless? "The silver is mine, and the gold (i.e., the money) is mine, saith the Lord of hosts." Haggai 2:8. If we expect God's mercy and deliverance in the rising storm, we must use our resources to get His saints and elect warned everywhere while we have a little time and freedom left — the night is right upon us!

This satanic prince of darkness is misguiding our statesmen, President, Congress, and Supreme Court. Why does God permit this evil influence to prevail? Let God's prophet reply: "Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the Lord. **For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters,** and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." Jeremiah 2:12-13. Our political leaders ran out of holy men of God to counsel with them from God's Word long ago — there has been no rebuke, nor reproof, nor instruction in righteousness to correct their errant ways. II Timothy 3:16-17; II Timothy 4:3-4. They forsook the Lord's counsel — so the devil sent his emissary from hell to misguide them!

cl The Lord showed me in this revelation that the prince of the devil has been in the Nation's Capitol building since President Truman's administration ended in January 1953. The first tragic result of this demonic counsel was the Supreme Court's decision of 1954, outlawing the Holy Bible from the public school classrooms of America. My God, what a tragic result to our nation — the fear of God departed except in a few of God's true saints and their families. Then followed President Kennedy's death, Vietnam, Watergate, many foolish Supreme Court decisions and Congressional legislation which has led to our spiritual decline, division, and moral degeneracy. Only God can foresee and reveal what President Carter will lead us into as his misguided policies spawn a sea of troubles and problems that will hasten our engulfment into self-destruction!



### MAKE THE VISION PLAIN

**A prophet's vision must be published as a warning to God's elect as in the Lord's command to Habakkuk: "Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.** For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." Habakkuk 2:2-3. This ministry and minister cannot hold our peace but be obedient to the Lord. We must cry aloud, spare not, lift up (our) voice like a trumpet, and show God's people their transgressions and the church their sins. Isaiah 58:1. We have the vision and the message to a nation with deep-rooted, spiritual homicidal tendencies. We know the causes of our inner pain and sickness, and we have the cure to effect by the anointing of the Holy Ghost. We are a voice — not an echo among many false presentations by preachers telling Americans falsely how to have God's favor — **we're leading God's people into an end-time Holy Ghost revival of True Holiness.** The Holy Ghost is "the Spirit of Holiness." Romans 1:4.

We know God's controversy with America, formerly the home of the brave and the land of the free — here it is: "The Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood. **Therefore shall the land (i.e., America) mourn, and everyone that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.**" Hosea 4:1-3. We're doing this to ourselves by rejecting the wise counsel of God's Word — "live holy and fear God." Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Hebrews 12:28-29.

### WE NEED EXAMPLES

Church and religion are big business in our sick and decadent society almost without heart or soul! Phony Bibles, phony Christians and phony preachers crowd out God's true saints as churches and preachers compromise for popularity, money, and a crowd — the worldly crowd! This grieves a true saint, and the Holy Ghost also. Jesus said to blind church leaders, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves." Matthew 23:15. Of church members in Crete the apostle wrote: "They profess that they know- God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate." Titus 1:16. What a spiritual profile, applicable to today's professing church society!

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*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou has rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. Hos. 4:6.*



This nation and the church of Jesus Christ need godly examples — patterns, if you please — not big mouths bragging about some great spiritual experience. Most churches, club meetings, crusades, broadcasts, and hootenannies (sings) are full of testimonies, songs, entertainment, but there's precious little righteousness and godliness in evidence. The best testimony of God's grace is a sterling example of Christ's purity and virtue, and of His holy life-style. What does God's grace do to a sinner who receives Christ? "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, **Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.**" Titus 2:11-12. Praise God!

Many professed believers in Christ and many preachers are destroying themselves by twisting the Holy Scriptures that demand holiness, while they live fleshly, like the world: "As also in all (the Apostle Paul's) epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, **unto their own destruction.**" II Peter 3:16.

God's covenant of grace is validated in a believer's life only after he (or she) yields his body to the Lord as His temple. We cannot dissipate our health and virtue, and then expect God's favor. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, **and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.**" I Corinthians 6:19-20. The Lord further warned: "**If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy;** for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Corinthians 3:17. The desecration of God's temples, our bodies, in smoking, beer guzzling, drunkennes, immorality, sex perversion, dope addiction, immodest dress and nudity — these abominations are major contributions to our self-destruction. The desecration of the human body, even by professing Christians living like alleycats, are opening the floodgates of God's judgments upon this whole generation.

### OBEDIENCE

I cannot close without a warning to parents and young adults. The break-up of the home is Satan's final and fatal blow to an already dying society. If only the professing Christian parents in America would live godly and be examples to their children, this society which has a terminal illness, would experience a miraculous recovery. This obedience to God's Word would suffice: "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged (i.e., mature) women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, **that the word of God be not blasphemed.** Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. In all things shewing thyself **a pattern of good works:** in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity." Titus 2:1-7. God hates divorce and remarriage! "The Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant . . . Therefore take heed to your



spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. **For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away.**" Malachi 2:14-16. Also I Peter 3:1-7.

No society can endure the dissolution of its basic fountainhead of strength — the national institutions of home and church. Discipline has all but disappeared from both — and, there are very few remaining voices who speak with authority for fear of arousing the ire of children or church members. We must turn back to God's book of authority and discipline — the Holy Bible, or, God's people will suffer the fate of the rebellious. God pleads to His people: "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." Isaiah 1:18-20.

Beloved, let's submit to God's book of authority and regain (or retain) God's favor for ourselves and our families as the approaching "Gathering Storm" of violence, moral corruption, natural disasters, depression, and persecution to God's saints creeps ever closer. "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. Children, obey your parents in all things . . . Servants (employees, i.e.) obey in all things your masters (bosses) according to the flesh . . ." Colossians 3:17-24. Also, "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." Ephesians 5:21.

### BURY OUR HEADS IN THE SAND? NO!

We must not bury our heads in the sand as the proverbial ostrich and feebly hope our troubles and painful ills will go away. Every day, open your eyes and look — our distresses and confusion increase in intensity — these will soon erupt into a deafening fury — into the rising, predicted "Gathering Storm." Sinister forces of evil precipitate global and national crises which are inflicting their deadly pains into government, home, church, school — into the whole economic and political spectrum! In the face of powerful enemies who have sworn to bury us, our government is foolishly and blindly dismantling our spy and security agencies — the FBI and CIA! **We are destroying ourselves!** Here's a prophetic warning: By the end of our present administration's bungling and weakening of our military and security forces at home and abroad, coupled with a disastrous economic policy — President Carter will leave office with this nation in shambles! Satan's messenger has delivered his message on detente and socialism to our blinded political leaders in the Presidency, Congress, and Supreme Court — and, they are listening well to Satan's diabolical plans — master plans with a purpose — to lead us into self destruction.

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*The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them. Ez. 34:4.*



This cunning ambassador in our Nation's Capitol, from the world of darkness, attends every meeting of the President's Security Advisers Council, the President's Council of Economic Advisers, every committee meeting of the House and Senate, every Supreme Court counseling session where decisions are made — clouding the thinking and planning of these well-meaning political bodies — rendering their decisions perverted or just measures to deal with the symptoms of our sick society's ills — not the painful underlying causes.

God has prophetically and graphically shown to us America's spiritual profile in detail: "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you that he will not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity . . . None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity . . . Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity (rebellion); wasting and destruction are in their paths. The way of peace they know not . . . Judgment is far from us; neither does justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. **We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon day as in the night . . .** we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us. **For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them;** In transgressing and lying against the Lord, and departing away from our God . . . for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. **Yea, truth faileth;** and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey (i.e., he that lives holy will be persecuted) . . . And he saw that there was no man, **and wondered that there was no intercessor."** Isaiah 59:2-16.

A terrible famine for hearing God's Word, that is, the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth has arisen upon us — (Amos 8:11-13) — and, God has raised up this ministry with its divining messages, and, its holy saints to make intercession for our church and nation through fasting and prayer. These troubles and crises will multiply and magnify until we enter the "Beginning of Sorrows" as Jesus predicted (Matthew- 24:8)

We will not bury our heads in the sand or close our eyes to these rising calamities and catastrophies, as the prophet forecast: "Destruction cometh; and they shall seek peace, and there shall be none. Mischief shall come upon mischief, and rumour shall be upon rumour; **then shall they seek a vision of the prophet."** Ezekiel 7:25-26. Did you hear that — God's people will seek the prophet's vision very soon as these rumours and subsequent sorrows fall upon us.

This ministry has been established as a lighthouse and tower of strength to rescue thousands of God's people who are blind and deaf to these warnings — to pull them out of the fire as the Gathering Storm breaks upon us very soon. We have God's order to "be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, **in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life."** Philippians 2:15-16. This light — the light of God's message we teach and publish, will save many from destruction as our nation destroys itself. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalms 119:105.



# PRACTICAL FASTING AND PRAYER

The most powerful exercise in a real Christian's spiritual experience is fasting and prayer — that is, **practical** fasting and prayer! The definition of practical is "having to do with action or practice rather than thought or theory." Praise God! Real scriptural fasting and prayer when practiced and not just an intention, will produce faith in God to move mountains. Jesus had delivered a young boy who was possessed of an evil spirit, "Then came the disciples of Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out **but by prayer and fasting.**" Matthew 17:19-20. Remember this!

This message is not magnifying fasting above prayer, because prayer comes first in a true believer's spiritual exercise — but, this message is primarily dealing with the subject of fasting which greatly accents real prayer.

## TRUE MOTIVES FOR FASTING

A great prayer life is not possible without scriptural, practical fasting! Practical fasting is a spiritual exercise into the breaking of the power of the flesh, and the humbling of our souls unto God's perfect will. The man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22) wrote: "But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth: **I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.**" Psalms 35:13. Did you hear that real good? Again he wrote: "**When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting,** that was to my reproach." Psalms 69:10. True fasting produces miracle working, mountain moving faith, which are the results of an anointed prayer life — praying in the Spirit! Jesus has warned that many unanswered prayers are the result of unbelief which can only be overcome by a combination of practical fasting and prayer.

What motives for fasting does God accept? Some fast for health's sake — some to lose weight — some just to boast about. God, however, gives us His Word on this important matter: "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke. Is it not to deal they bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?" Isaiah 58:6-7. Spiritual immaturity and adolescence can be overcome through practical fasting and prayer — it is the royal road to

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*And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord. I Sam. 3:21.*



perfection in Jesus Christ! A life of spiritual apathy and indolence, ever void of practical fasting and prayer is the royal road to frustration and compromise with the flesh.

Our motives for fasting must be unselfish — "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus . . . (who) looked not on his own things but on the things (i.e., the needs) of others." Philippians 2:4-5. For a complete victory over the world, the flesh, sin and the devil, every true disciple of Christ must of necessity practice fasting. Jesus is our example. After fasting 40 days and nights, Jesus encountered the devil and won the victory over him, over the world, and over the flesh! Matthew 4 and Luke 4.

Isaiah 58 is the greatest chapter in your Holy Bible on practical fasting — in vivid and graphic detail! Why fast and be miserable physically for a few days when you can compromise for a substitute to God's promise? Answer: The benefits to others are incomparable, and the post-rewards to the believer who fasts are priceless. God says, if you will fast to (1) loose the bands of wickedness, (2) to undo the heavy burdens, (3) to let the oppressed go free, and (4) to break every yoke of my people who are oppressed of the devil (Isaiah 58:1), My side benefits or post rewards to you will be: "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, **and thine health shall spring forth speedily** (you will receive divine health) . . . Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; **thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am . . . thy darkness shall be as the noonday: And the Lord shall guide thee continually**, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, **and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not**. And they that be of thee (i.e., those who turn to righteousness because of your fasting) shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in." Isaiah 58:8-12. Praise God! Practical fasting and prayer produces holy men and women of God through the anointing and intercession of the Holy Ghost! "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: **but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered . . .** because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." Romans 8:26-27. This intercessory prayer ministry is a direct result of practical fasting. Hannah, while fasting and praying for God to give her a man-child, could only groan in the Spirit with speechless supplication! I Samuel 1:13-15. Groanings and mourning are a result of practical fasting — this is intercessory prayer or the Spirit's supplication through a humbled Spirit-filled believer!

Jesus said that the perspective Bride of Christ would mourn for Christ the Bridegroom with fasting during His absence: "And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, **and then shall they fast.**" Matthew 9:15. This next scripture reveals (as do many others) that practical fasting is a result of the compassion of Jesus which we have received by the Holy Ghost — charity or divine love that is real: "Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Johanan the son of Eliashib: and when he came thither, **he did eat no bread, nor drink water: for he mourned** because of the transgression of them that had been carried away (i.e., with heathen idolatry)." Ezra 10:6; cf. Psalms 35:13-15; Romans 5:5.



Do you practice prayer and fasting? These two spiritual exercises should co-exist in your life, for they are just as vital as two other inseparable virtues of the Holy Ghost — faith and the works of faith! "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" James 2:20. So Jesus rebuked His apostles thusly: "This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting." Matthew<sup>7</sup> 17:21. We can literally pray our heads off, but we will not have authority over the devil without a consistent spiritual life built upon practical fasting and prayer!

### ANOINTING THROUGH FASTING

After fasting for 40 days, Jesus stood in the synagogue and read the prophecy of Isaiah the prophet concerning Himself: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because **he hath anointed me** to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18-19. Holy Ghost anointing comes through fasting!

Most Christians find it difficult to have a spirit of prayer, or, they have lost the spirit of prayer altogether. **Go on a fast right now if this is the case with you** — and, you'll find you can pray an hour and it will seem like 5 minutes instead of praying 5 minutes that seems like an hour. "I humbled my soul with fasting, and my prayer (i.e., my spirit of prayer) returned into my own bosom." Psalms 35:13! Praise God for this formula for complete victory over the flesh. Jesus warned us: "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41. The spiritual exercise of practical fasting will give the spirit the mastery over the flesh that don't want to pray!

The early church was characterized by powerfully anointed ministers, and even the deacons as Philip and Stephen. "As they ministered to the Lord, **and fasted**, the Holy Ghost said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. **And when they had fasted and prayed**, and laid hands on them, they sent them away." Acts 13:2-3. Praise God — this was a church of real love, real unity, true holiness, true gifts of the Spirit — they walked in the fear of God and the comfort of the Holy Ghost. Acts 9:31. "And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of Lord Jesus: . . . There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: **and they were healed everyone.**" Acts 4:32-33; 5:16. My, My, what a glorious church — the result of practical fasting and prayer, for the Holy Ghost kept reminding them, "This kind cometh not forth, but by prayer and fasting." The Holy Ghost does the same today to Christ's disciples who will listen, for Jesus has said: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, **he will guide you into all truth** . . . and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 16:13; 14:26.

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*Also, I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I, send me. Isa. 6:8.*



### PROCLAIM A FAST

The disciples of Christ in today's church feast — they do not fast! They are full of sympathy — not much compassion! They love the supper room — not the upper room. They are inspired — not greatly anointed. The flesh must be crucified for Christ to live and be manifested through Christ's true disciples, as the great apostle exclaimed through the Spirit: "**I am crucified with Christ**, nevertheless **I** live; yet not **I**, but Christ liveth in me." Galatians **2:20**. This same holy, powerfully-anointed apostle and prophet of God also testified: **I fast often! II Corinthians 11:27**. This great writer of the Holy Scriptures, the Apostle Paul, received a born-again experience while fasting **3** days and nights without food or water. Acts 9:9. His prolific ministry to establish the church of our Lord among the Gentiles began with fasting and prayer (observed by Paul and the first Christian church) at Antioch. Acts **11:26; 13:1-3**.

As the Day of the Lord swiftly approaches, the magnitude of each Christian's troubles and trials will increase. Demon oppression and depression increase daily upon us as the gauntlet is thrown down — every individual will be driven through spiritual conflict into complete surrender to Jesus Christ (i.e., to full obedience), or, be swept into the rising antichrist religious system, into full and complete rebellion against God's Word!

How can we and our families meet this Satanic and demonic challenge — to overcome the buffeting and depressions we're encountering in all our efforts to please God and to save our families? Here's the answer: "For the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also NOW, saith the Lord, **turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with weeping, and with fasting**, and with **mourning**: And rend your heart and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil . . . **Blow the trumpet in Zion** (i.e., wake up the church), **sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly** (not a hootennany or sing): Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet (i.e., it is time to quit honeymooning and Disney-Worlding for real saints). Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them (the heathen is ruling in most churches): wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?" Joel **2:11-17**. Halleluiah, what a sight expressed prophetically of the persecuted and harrassed church of Jesus Christ in the Gathering Storm — elders and youth, mothers and fathers, brides and bridegrooms, children and

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*But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. Acts 6:4.*

*Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness! Hab. 2:15.*



preachers together mourning and weeping, fasting and making intercession unto the Lord for His compassion on the church and nation, *i*

The prophesied result of a proclaimed fast by churches, pastors and individual saints is: "Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn (i.e., the true word of God), and wine (i.e., a Holy Ghost outpouring), and oil (i.e., the Holy Ghost's anointing), and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen (i.e., the worldly crowd) . . . and I will restore (as also prophesied in Acts 3:20-21) to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm (i.e., **spiritual parasites**), my great army which I sent among you." Joel 2:18-19, 25! They are among us now!

As our sick and dying society seeks to the god of pleasure and rejects the God of the Holy Bible, plummeting recklessly forward into severe divine judgments — we, as individuals who seek God's favor and mercy for ourselves and our families, what must we do quickly and resolutely? Answer: **Proclaim a fast!** Then continue to practice fasting with great intercession and supplication before the throne of God's grace! Beloved, there is a mighty famine arising for hearing God's true Word preached — that is, the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth! The Holy Scriptures are ALL given by inspiration of God and are profitable for doctrine, **for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness!** II Timothy 3:16-17. We must hear the whole truth or we will be led into darkness and perish!

God has warned the church and America: "If I shut up heaven that there be no rain (and this is beginning to come upon us even now), or if I command the locusts to devour the land (pestilence will soon devour our land), or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves (i.e., through fasting), 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." II Chronicles 7:13-14.

### DESPERATION AND OBEDIENCE

Beloved, we must hear more of God's Word than just God's responsibility to bless us and love us — we must of necessity hear our sobering, solemn responsibility to our great Creator and Saviour! Jesus has spoken this command: After I am taken away, then my disciples shall mourn and fast. Matthew 9:15. Fasting is therefore not an option but an act of obedience required of those who will be more than conquerors through Christ. Romans 8:37. Jesus promised, "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matthew 5:6.

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*Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it. Amos 8:11-12.*



Is there a desperate need in your life? Fast and pray about it. When a desperate situation arose against God's people in the days of old, their response was, **Proclaim A Fast!** The wicked prime minister of Persia many centuries ago devised a malicious plot to destroy God's people when Esther was queen. In desperation she instructed the righteous Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, **and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise;** and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish." Esther 4:16. God was intreated, and divine intervention preserved the lives of God's people whom the wicked Haman had sought to destroy.

The impoverished Jewish exiles, returning to Jerusalem after 70 years in Bablonian captivity under Ezra, in desperation, proclaimed a fast to seek God's compassion: "**Then I proclaimed a fast there,** at the river Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance . . . **So we fasted and besought our God for this: and he was intreated of us.**" Ezra 8:21-23. They fasted for 3 days. Ezra 8:15.

A truly great spiritual leader of God's people "proclaimed a fast" among them when the enemy threatened to attack with overwhelming numbers: "And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and **proclaimed a fast** throughout all Judah." II Chronicles 20:3. Results? "And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries, when they had heard that the Lord fought against the enemies of Israel." II Chronicles 20:29.

God sent the Prophet Jonah to the capital city of a mighty, but excessively wicked empire, with a dire, prophetic message, void of any offer of mercy. "And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." Jonah 3:4. Overthrown! Why this was going to be the same devastating kind of judgment that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah — this nation's response: "**So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast,** and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them . . . And he (i.e., the king) caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything: **let them not feed, nor drink water . . .** let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. **Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?**" Jonah 3:5-9. Now, the results of this fast of desperation: "And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way (i.e., they truly repented); and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not." Jonah 3:10! Praise God! He still says to you and me: "I am the Lord; I change not." Malachai 3:6.

Don't yell out a protest with the carnal preachers and Christians that this is Old Testament stuff. The Apostle Paul, on a Roman prison ship, sailing toward Rome across the Mediterranean Sea to be sentenced to death at the guillotine, faced a desperate situation with 275 other prisoners and seamen: "And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest (i.e., a terrible storm) lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away." Acts 27:20. The Apostle and some of the others responded to this



desperately hopeless situation thusly: "But after long abstinence (i.e., fasting) Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, Saying, Fear not Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: **and lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.**" Acts 27:21-24. How long was that fast? 14 days! Verse 33. Many storms of this life have driven me to fasting and prayer! This has brought victory!

### NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE UNTO YOU!

Remember the words of our Lord and master: "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; **and nothing shall be impossible unto you.** Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting." Matthew 17:20-21. Beloved, you ought to repeat this phrase about 50 times daily: Jesus said, "Nothing shall be impossible unto me, if I'll practice fasting with prayer faithfully." God answers prayers according to our desires that are in perfect identity with His will. "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, **if we ask anything according to his will,** he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we **desired** of him." I John 5:14-15. To desire means: to long for, to yearn for, or crave. Praise God! "**The desire of the righteous** shall be granted." Proverbs 10:24. Also, "Delight thyself also in the Lord (i.e., in obeying the Lord); and he shall give thee **the desires** of thine heart." Psalms 37:4. Jesus has promised, "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye **desire,** when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Mark 11:24. Desire is one of the strongest of all human emotions ranking close to love, fear, and jealousy. Godly desire is perhaps the strongest of all righteous emotions. It will drive to hunger, to thirst, to prayer, to seeking, to striving, to envisioning, and to fasting in quest of receiving from the Lord — and above all, it drives us into obedience!

Beloved, are you sick or in bad health? **Proclaim a fast!** God says, "Your health shall spring forth speedily." Isaiah 58:8. Mother and dad, are your children lost and breaking your hearts? **Proclaim a fast!** A certain Roman army officer fasted and prayed for God to save his family. The results: (The Apostle Peter relates) "And he showed us how<sup>r</sup> he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, w<sup>t</sup>hose surname is Peter; Who shall tell thee w<sup>r</sup>ords, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved. And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning." Acts 11:13-15. Praise God! This army officer fasted 4 days (Acts 10:30) and God saved his family, all his near kin (Acts 10:24), and filled them with the Holy Ghost." Acts 10:44-46.

Beloved, do you have family problems that are about to destroy your home? Remember, that in the raging tempest, when all hope was gone that the ship or those aboard would be saved — through fasting and prayer, the Apostle Paul intreated the Lord, and God sent His angel to deliver. Don't let the devil w<sup>t</sup>reck your home and marriage when Jesus has promised that through



practical fasting and prayer, "Nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Pastor, is your church dead, worldly, or unruly? **Proclaim a fast until revival fires fall** — and, nothing shall be impossible unto you!

Christian, are you bound with evil habits and worldly, carnal lusts? **Proclaim a fast!** "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness . . . and to break every yoke?" Isaiah 58:6. Glory to God! "God shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly" — Romans 16:20!

### HOW TO FAST

Our Holy Bible prescribes a manner of fasting which God accepts — also what He rejects! God's people once asked the Lord: "**Wherefore have we fasted, and thou seest not?** wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge?" Isaiah 58:3. God's answer: "**Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.** Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: **ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high . . .** wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day unto the Lord?" Isaiah 58:3-5. We must turn away from all pleasure, and only exact a minimal workload when fasting.

**Jesus said of fasting:** "Moreover when ye fast, be not as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward (i.e., to be seen and honored by men). **But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast,** but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly." Matthew 6:16-18.

Too many troubled Christians offer the inexcusable alibi for not fasting, "It nauseates me, or I get a sick headache, etc." Well, beloved, it does me too and everyone else most times during periods of fasting longer than missing a meal or two. The Prophet Daniel, after much fasting and prayer said, "And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days." Daniel 8:27. The prophet and psalmist David said of his experience in practical fasting and prayer: "For I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded in me. **I am gone like the shadow when it declineth: I am tossed up and down like the locust. My knees are weak through fasting; and my flesh faileth of fatness.** I became a reproach unto

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**THE HOGS DON'T** — A Christian farmer was spending the day in a large city. Entering a restaurant for his noon meal, he found a table near a group of young men. When his meal was served, he quietly bowed his head and offered thanks for the food.

The young men, observing this, thought they would embarrass and ridicule the old man.

One yelled out in a loud voice, "Hey, farmer, does everyone do that where you come from?"

The old man looked at the youth and quietly said, "No, son, the hogs don't," — Selected.



them: when they looked upon me they shook their heads." Psalms 109:22-25. Here we see the restlessness, the physical weakness, and loss of weight and comeliness experienced from prolonged fasting and prayer. But, what results — what victory — what anointing — what spirit of prayer — what deliverance to the oppressed!

Real fasting is not dieting — it is the abstinence of any food and often the abstinence of water also. I've known many preachers and church members proclaim publicly a fast, then slip around and eat food, or drink milk, or other liquid nourishments, and call such a "religious stunt" a 10-day, 21-day, or 40-day fast. This is hypocrisy and not even worthy of honorable mention — it is foolishness or childishness with God! For a 3-day fast or less, no water or food should be taken. The Apostle Paul fasted 3 days and neither ate nor drank. Acts 9:9. Queen Esther, her maidens, and the Jews of Shushan, neither ate nor drank water for 3 days and nights. Esther 4:16. After 3 days of fasting, then a little water is permissible daily until the fast is consummated, if prolonged.

Beloved, don't let the boast of the mimickers of this great spiritual exercise into power with God discourage you from fasting. The boasts you hear of 10-day, 21-day, 40-day fasts are almost 100% fictitious — consisting of dieting, or a "fast" of liquids only. Babies can live on liquid food — so can adults. Start your real fast today. Fast one day at first, then two days, then three days without food or water mingled with much prayer and intercession. Your loved ones will be convicted — your spirit of prayer will return — your health will spring forth speedily!

My faithful old mother, a Holy Ghost filled practitioner of fasting and prayer, fasted 7 days which resulted in my wife and I being kept from a divorce court and saved. Several years ago my wife had numerous cancerous growths in her breasts. Well, we had determined long before to trust the Lord for divine healing — so my wife, Naomi said to me, "If God don't heal me, I'll just die, for I am not going to have my body mutilated by surgery." A few weeks later while I was in Chicago and in a great revival, the Holy Ghost spoke to me, "Go home now and seek God in fasting for your wife or she will die." I didn't have to hear that warning twice. I left Chicago and arrived home in South Florida 3 days later to begin intreating the Lord for my wife whom I loved dearly. The results: On the seventh day of that fast, my wife was sitting in the living room of our home alone when a warm feeling suddenly went through her chest, and upon immediate examination, she discovered a miracle had happened — she was completely healed! Praise God! The lumps were gone!

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*But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth: I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.*

*I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother: I bowed down heavily, as one that mourneth for his mother. Psa. 35:13-14.*



Practical fasting and prayer is a regular spiritual exercise of our walk in the Spirit! Every month from 2-3 days, often 4-7 days, and occasionally longer, we fast with supplication and intercession in prayer. Beloved, any Christian can pray, but intercessory prayer with compassion comes through practical fasting. "Ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me **with all your heart.**" Jeremiah 29:13. Let us turn to Him with all our heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning. Joel 2:12.

### TURNING ASIDE

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." Psalms 30:5! Practical fasting will produce great joy, **afterwards!** Fasting is crucifixion of the flesh, and it hurts! It's our execution of the old man, and it is painful. Romans 6:6. Fasting is turning aside from routine life-styles and habits to the chastening of our souls before God. Psalms 69:10; Isaiah 58:3-6. "Be still and know that I am God." Psalms 46:10. God called Moses away from worldly cares to the burning bush where he was quiet and could hear God's voice and receive God's direction. "And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses." Exodus 3:3-4.

How would you like to hear God speak to you literally? The first time I fasted a long fast (10 days), God spoke to me and told me how to have revival in a church I was pastoring. **I proclaimed a fast, including myself,** stopping all activities until we intreated the Lord. We quit doing everything but the bare necessities of our homes until God gave us direction for victory! The Holy Ghost also gave me a vision of the fire of God falling upon that church. It fell 3 days later!

Those who will be in the Bride of Christ must seek the Bridegroom's favor and communion with fasting and mourning as Jesus said. Matthew 9:14-15. I remember in the good old days when God's people practiced fasting and intercessory prayer for almost everything. My mother and father fasted for rain, for the chickens and cows that were sick — and, for us children when we were sick, or just had the itch, or warts. And I saw God answer! No revival was attempted during the 1930's or 40's without fasting and prayer for God to **convict** sinners and backsliders. You don't hear very much about real fasting, real praying, or old-fashioned conviction any more.

Well, beloved, God demands us to have the victory over the world, the flesh, sin, and the devil — and, we must practice fasting and prayer to have this victory. Don't hesitate to seek God in turning aside to fast and mourn before Him. **Remember, "Then shalt thou call, and the Lord will answer . . . and the Lord will guide thee continually . . . thine health shall spring forth speedily."** Isaiah 58:8-11. Praise God! All this through fasting!

— The End.

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*How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver! Prov. 16:16*