We Need a TOTAL (Radical) Cleansing

1Th 5:1 ¶ But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 6 ¶ Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 11 ¶ Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

1Th 5:16 Rejoice evermore. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 19 Quench not the Spirit. 20 Despise not prophesyings. 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.

(1Co 7:5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.) 23 ¶ And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2Co 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Ro 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

Ac 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Mt 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Lu 3:16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

Ac 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. 13:2 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.

Fasting

Mr 2:20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

1. **JESUS URGED FASTING.**

Mt 17:21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting. Mr 9:29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

1. **Joel urged FASTING.**

Joe 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

Throughout the Bible the emphasis is on public fasts. Joel put it this way: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly" (2:15).

Jesus also put an emphasis on fasting corporately. He declared, "Then shall they fast in those days" (Mark 2:20). He knew the church would be assaulted by the enemy from every direction and, therefore, urged the church to fast.

Primary form of fasting is a corporate fast. Secondary fasting is individual fasting.

Mt 6:3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: Jesus( taught Giving, Praying, and Fasting)

We should give not to be seen of men but privately (verse 3). We pray both privately and with other people (verses 5,7).

Jesus implied primary prayer is to pray alone for help (cure for hypocrisy) Secondary prayer is to pray with other people. (cure for pride)

Some things are too private to pray about with others—they are only between God and the one praying.

Fasting individually is secondary because

(1) it is encouraging and easier to fast with other people than alone;

(2) fasting corporately brings the most powerful unity a church or body of believers can ever witness

(3) a corporate anointing is released in a church.

Ac 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Ac 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

**2. Fasting helps produce faith.**

Faith must be released out of our mouths (Romans 10:3–10). Our source of faith is the Word of God, but we must speak it with our mouths.

The same organ we speak with is the same organ we eat with—the tongue. Fasting and faith are first cousins. The tongue speaks faith and eats food. Some unbelief cannot be broken without fasting.

God spoke to Joshua to tell the people as they were ready to invade Jericho,

Jos 6:10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

There are different types of fasts. In this situation God commanded the people to fast by not speaking. For over a week they could not speak.

Fasting increases faith as we allow God’s Word to saturate our minds.

1. **Fasting is the spiritual method to bring revival**

Joe 2:12 ¶ Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: 13 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.

Joe 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

16 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. 17 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: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

19 Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:

Joe 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month. {the former rain moderately: or, a teacher of righteousness} {moderately: Heb. according to righteousness}

Joe 2:28 ¶ And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

This passage speaks of a revival that affects the young and the old. It will come to pass "afterward." After what?

*Afterward* is used much like the word *then*. If you will do this, then these blessings will happen in your life. Some requirements are necessary before *afterward* can take place:

(1) "Blow the trumpet in Zion, (2) sanctify a fast, (3) call a solemn assembly" (Joel 2:15).

Fasting must occur before the blessing of *afterward* can happen. Joel was saying if we will fast and have the people seek God with public fasting, then afterward He will send a revival. Peter quoted this verse in Acts 2.

Ac 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Peter quoted from Joel and because of Jewish orthodox tradition.

Up through the fourth century the Early Church, following Jewish tradition, fasted on communion days until 3 o’clock in the afternoon. When Peter said, "These are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day," he was actually saying they were not eating or drinking. This was a holy day, and they were fasting until 3 o’clock; it was only 9 o’clock in the morning.

Fast for faith for Revival with God’s promise from His Word.

**4. Fasting puts us in a position to do the Will of God (Romans 12:1,2).**

We are to present our bodies unto God. One way we do so is through fasting. When we fast we do it as unto the Lord. We experience hunger and sacrifice pleasures so we may draw closer to God. Fasting is not the answer—Jesus is;

Fasting puts us in a place to receive more of Jesus. God promises to show us His good, acceptable, and perfect will.

To renew your mind, first begin devouring the Word of God every day. Secondly, you must fast. Fasting is much more than suffering a few hunger pains and not eating food.

Fasting is a mental discipline. It is much more difficult to fast mentally than it is physically. Through this process comes a renewal of the mind, a discipline of the mind, a desire to know the perfect will of God.

Fasting for Recovery, Revival and **against all** Reluctance; Unwillingness, Foot-dragging, Hesitancy, Lack of enthusiasm, Refusal, rebuttal, rebellion, selfishness, stubbornness.

**5. Fasting brings victory.**

Fasting takes you out of your comfort zone but leads you to victory.

When you fast and pray, you can defeat the strongest devils. They flee from you. Be not afraid. You have the name of Jesus. Power becomes greatly multiplied in your life when you seek Him in prayer and fasting.

WARNING!!! Unless there is a breakthrough many will not remain in church, and some will leave the ministry. Victory belongs to you, and fasting is one of the keys to help bring it into your life and ministry.

The difference between what our Christianity ought to be and what it actually is; comes down to a lack of prayer and fasting.

**Fasting for Personal Freedom**

If you are miserable, and your prayers have remained unanswered, it is because you are not sufficiently in tune with God yourself.

Sometimes our impure motives block answers from coming, sometimes it is an impure theology which denies the power of God.

Combining FASTING with the Word and prayer will eventually eliminate both. The problem is not God's unwillingness to give good things.

Don't ever think that. (See Matthew 7:11). God is a good God, but we have become fleshly. To fast unto God means to stop eating for a few days, or many days, and intensify your prayers. Boldly speak out the promises of God during this time. Your answer will come.

Mt 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Joe 2:21 Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things.

**Fasting to be like Jesus**

Jesus fasted 40 days before starting to destroy the works of the devil with power, and we won't do the works he did - especially the miracles - unless we also fast with similar dedication for long fasts.

Joh 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

few Christians believe Jesus enough to follow His example in fasting. But that is what it takes to consistently do the works He did.

Short fasts can produce miraculous results, but fall short of the glory of God. God is calling us to longer fasts. He is calling us to be prophetic, not *pathetic*. We should stop making excuses. Yes, it is a battle, it does involve pain, The strong can proclaim Pain as weakness leaving THE BODY MIND AND SOUL. Being Godly is related to our willingness to bear pain, where required (and it often is).

Be serious about undertaking long fasts for the glory of God. God is calling His people everywhere to undergo extended periods of fasting and prayer, as well as many short fasts, in preparation

**Fasting and Grace**

God has already given us every spiritual blessing in heavenly places (Ephesians 1:3), including the love of God poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5), but we don't experience much of it, we don't walk in much of it, until we learn to "cash in" God's checks through persistent fasting and prayer, with a focus on Jesus and the Word of God. Fasting, when combined with prayer and a determined focus on speaking and applying the Word of God, will root out the garbage which is clogging us up, both spiritually and physically. We see too much evidence of sin and unbelief to deny that we are need of radical cleansing.

Fasting does not earn us merit with God. The salvation and forgiveness of God is a gift (Ephesians 2:8,9) and fasting can't buy it.

But fasting is a major key to actually, putting down the flesh and worthless thoughts, and humbling ourelves before God that we might **receive** greater grace.

Jas 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Fasting brings us into line with the will of God. Very few people experience much of the will of God for them. The will of God is the Word of God.

Consecration and faith towards God through fasting, Don’t give in to the lack of power, lack of love or holiness in the church. God has given YOU and I the power to be a part of the solution. The ball is in our court. It is our time to fast and pray.

**Benefits of Fasting**

Isaiah 58 tells us the benefits of fasting. Fasting won't benefit us much if we cling to impure motives and continue to treat people wrong.

If you fast according to God's will, you will take delight in approaching God.

6 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? 7 Is it not to deal thy 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? 8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward.

9 Then shalt thou call, and the LORD shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; 10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: 11 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.

12 And they that shall be of thee 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.

13 If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Our condition is serious, others may not see the trouble. The real cure, fast and pray. God even favored the wicked king of Israel, Ahab, after he fasted in response to God's message of judgment. Then you will see a radical change, and you will start to take an amazing delight in God.

1Ki 21:27 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly. 29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.

Jon 3:5 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.

6 For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. 7 And he 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 any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: 8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. 9 Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

4:1 But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry.