

Sunday Morning

January 11, 2015

ETERNITY IN MY HEART BREAKDOWN OR BREAKTHROUGH?

PSALM 50:15, "Call upon Me in the day of trouble, I shall rescue you and you will honor Me."

INSIGHT: Where we are as a nation and in our personal lives is all the same.

INSIGHT: God has allowed needs and desperation to come upon us of such a nature that only He can be the answer.

INSIGHT: God is looking for an occasion to go to war on our behalf.

INSIGHT: The darkness of our day calls for humble praying empowered by self-denial.

I. WHAT FASTING IS

A. Types

1. Normal
2. Partial
3. Total

B. Duration

1. *Daniel 6:18*, one night
2. *Esther 4:16*, three days
3. *2 Samuel 3:35*, one day
4. *Acts 27:33*, 14 days
5. *Daniel 10:3-13*, 21 days
6. *Luke 4:2*, 40 days

INSIGHT: Fasting is a time to turn away from and deprive yourself of something significant to gain the help of God and draw near to Him.

2015 EASTER CHALLENGE: Fast of your choice from Ash Wednesday, February 18 till Easter Sunday, April 5

II. THE PURPOSE OF FASTING

INSIGHT: Fasting is about turning away from something and turning toward God.

QUESTION: As we focus on fasting for God's help, what needs come to your mind?

QUESTION: If God asked you, "What are the top 3 things you want Me to do in your life or your family or your church?," what would you say?

CAVEAT: You need to determine to minister to the Lord as you fast (*Acts 13*).

Why people fast:

1. Divine guidance, *Judges 20:26-28*
2. Victory over temptation, *Matthew 4:1-11*
3. Freedom from addictions, *Isaiah 58:6*
4. Good living and influence for God, *Isaiah 58:8*
5. Church leaders, *Acts 13:3*
6. Physical healing, *James 5:14*
7. Revival/spiritual awakening in America, *2 Chronicles 7:14*
8. Material provision, *James 4:2*
9. Overcome fear, doubt and negativity, *Romans 8:15, Ephesians 5:29*

III. PRAYER WITH FASTING HUMBLER US AND EXALTS GOD.

INSIGHT: The struggle of your life experience may be because God sees your approach to life as prideful arrogance, and He is resisting you.

DEFINITION OF HOLY FRUSTRATION: Doing everything you can, persevering and not succeeding

INVITATION:

1. Will you accept the 2015 Easter challenge?
2. Will you commit to give God a chance with your impossible situation?
3. Will you this morning ask God's forgiveness for trusting your ability more than His power?