

Fasting From a Son's Perspective

July 25, 2020

Father, I honor You by always putting Your kingdom and Your righteousness first place in my life. I thank You for the privilege of fasting as one tool to keep this mortal body under dominion. I remember the words of my Lord Jesus Christ when He said, "When the bridegroom is taken away, then shall My disciples fast." Jesus is not physically on earth. I am a disciple. Therefore, I fast.

Matthew 9:15 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.**

It pleases You, Father, when I fast. Fasting is something You and I do together. You enjoy seeing me walk in the maturity of a son who is truly led by the spirit, the very nature of Christ You gave me at the new birth. I have learned to follow Christ within, therefore I have matured enough to be ready for participation in the "family business,"—the kingdom of God. I never want others to know when I am fasting. Fasting is just something between us, something You enjoy watching me do.

I always remember that hunger is not a fruit of the spirit. I always remember that the emotional suffering during fasting is not really coming from me. Rather, those emotions are coming from the flesh, the unmortified portions of my soul. Those emotions are coming from the flesh, which You have declared dead. Those emotions are coming from the very part of me that must lose its dominion. Those emotions are not me. They originate in the old man and must be kept on the cross. There is suffering on the cross and that is where my flesh must be kept.

As Your son, I suffer the pains of fasting because it is Your will for me during this dispensation of living in sinful flesh on this fallen planet. One day I will have a glorified body like my Lord's. But for now, fasting is suffering in the flesh that pleases You. I do it to please You and to always be ready for service in Your Kingdom, no matter what assignment I receive.

My Lord learned obedience through the things which He suffered. Fasting was one of those things. I also learn obedience through the suffering of fasting. It is Your will for me in this dispensation, and I gladly embrace it. I

am learning that there is no suffering in the flesh that is strong enough to deter me from doing Your will while I am on planet earth. I embrace fasting willingly, and I endure the suffering with joy set before me—the joy of knowing Your will shall be accomplished through this body.

The Holy Spirit also helps me with the infirmities of the flesh. He brings forth the nature of Christ within me to overcoming status. It is the life of Christ within me that the Holy Spirit anoints with dominion over all the power of the enemy. I am so thankful for the Holy Spirit who brings forward the life of Christ within me so I am an overcomer in this age. My heart, my mind, and my will are being progressively knit together with the living Christ. “Father, not my will but Thine be done. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, even as it is in Heaven.”

I want Your will to be done on the earth even if it does mean suffering in the flesh. The nature of Christ within me desires obedience no matter the suffering required in the flesh. Jesus felt the pain of every lash, but He remained at the Scourging Post until Your will had been fully accomplished. He could have asked for twelve legions of angels to come and set Him free at any time, but He chose to remain. In agony from every stripe, His heart cried out, “Father, Thy will be done. I will remain here until Your work is finished.”

[In my meditations, a movie plays in my mind. It is Jesus being scourged, pretty much as the scene in the movie, The Passion of the Christ. But I see Jesus speaking softly to His Father after every lash. In the movie, I am able to move closer so I can hear what Jesus is saying: “Father, this is your will for Me. Your will be done.” I must remember when I am fasting and feeling the pain of hunger, “Father, this is Your will for me. Your will be done.”]

This same character is what the Holy Spirit is bringing forth in me. Fasting is a wonderful training tool to help mature the character of Christ in me. It is training much like boot camp for a soldier so I will be ready for the times ahead when You send me on missions where suffering in the flesh will be required.

I desire Your will be accomplished through me more than I hate any suffering in the flesh I must endure. I want to know You! I want to walk with You! I want to WALK AS HE WALKED! FATHER, YOUR WILL BE DONE THROUGH MY LIFE!

As an overcomer, I love not my life unto death. I embrace the pain of fasting with joy set before me. I lay down my natural life that the nature and character of Christ's life may come forward within me to full harvest.

In the past I hated fasting. I avoided it as much as possible. Because that was the case, I did not learn how much the flesh had hindered my walk as a son of God. The Holy Spirit had to show me how greatly my flesh had hindered the life of Christ within me. Fasting is a necessary tool to remove those hindrances.

I choose the Lamb as my first love, and His love draws me to the Scouring Post. Fasting is where man's aspirations die and weakness of the flesh is purged. While fasting, the old man's will dies completely. Fasting is where what is known as "man" must bow the knee so those things of the flesh may be exposed by the lash of the Spirit to be purged by the blood of the Lamb.

THERE IS NO AVOIDING THE SCOURING POST FOR THOSE WHO WOULD TRULY TAKE UP THE CROSS ASSIGNED TO THEM BY THE LAMB. The blood of the Lamb remains at the Scouring Post to cleanse and purge me from all that is not the will of the Father. The power in His blood transforms me.

To walk in Manifested Glory is to walk in the power of God. At that level of power, no hypocrisy is permissible. The same power that will heal others will destroy you. History has proven this truth repeatedly. This level of ministry requires walking beyond the gifts of the Spirit. As Paul taught, this level requires the transformation to Love. For sons of full stature who initiate warfare at the instruction of Christ, safety is only afforded when "Satan has nothing in you."

There is no avoiding the Scouring Post if I truly desire to walk in Manifested Glory, which is the path the Father has assigned to me. I call on the power of the blood Christ to sustain me during every season of fasting.

Father, thank You again for the privilege of fasting.