

## FASTING #4 - God's Priorities .mp4

**Speaker1:** [00:00:04] When we think about fasting, I think about Daniel and how that Daniel went on the 21 day fast. Why 21 days? There's a lot of speculation. But he found a prophecy, an ancient prophecy that said that Israel would be restored after a time of captivity. And he knew that it was that season and that time. And it had not happened. It was not happening. And he decided that he was going to seek God's priorities. He decided that he was going to cancel his agenda and interrupt his schedule. And for 21 days he was going to go after God. Now, it was a partial fast. He ate no bread, he ate no meat, and he would drink water. And so you the Daniel fast then is no bread, no sweets, no meat, only fruits and vegetables and water. And you say, well, that's not that big of a deal. What's so big about doing that for 21 days? Well, when's the last time Michael showed up? Michael, the arch angel showed up at your house because all he did was go without meat, bread, sweets and drink water and just eat vegetables and fruit and did it as a sacrifice and a holy fast unto God. And there are two major angels in heaven. There is. There is Michael. He's God's messenger angel. And there is Gabriel. He's God's warrior. Angel. Every time you read of a of an angel fighting for Israel, it's Michael.

**Speaker1:** [00:01:47] Every time you hear of an angel bringing a message to mankind, it's Gabriel. It was Gabriel who came over and over again with messages. And so my point is simply this. When you begin to fast and you begin to pray, you get the attention of heaven. And as Daniel fasted for 21 days on the partial fast, an angel showed up at his house. One thing fasting does is it releases angelic forces. Angels are real. God is real. His power is real. And fasting taps in to the resources of heaven. And God's priorities are not our priorities. And God sometimes says, I want you to rearrange your life and I want you to come after me for my thoughts are not your thoughts, and my ways are not your ways. And you'll never know my way until you come after me in fasting and prayer. Like I want to reveal my way to your life as you begin to seek God and put Him first and get his priorities in your life, then one thing that will happen is God will begin to release into your life a new and fresh anointing. The Scripture talks about how that God cannot pour new wine into old Wineskins Jesus said, No one puts new wine into old Wineskins or else the new wine burst, the wineskins and the wine is spilled and the wine scans are ruined.

**Speaker1:** [00:03:17] But new wine, Jesus said, must be put in new Wineskins Well, I've never seen the connection between fasting and the new wine experience until I looked at this passage in. Jesus had just finished telling the Pharisees that his disciples would fast after he was gone. Fasting is what prepares you for a new anointing. God can't put the kind of new anointing that He wants to put in your life in the old you. And so if you want new miracles, a new closeness, a new intimacy with him, now is the time to call a fast and shed that old skin, that old you and say, Lord, renew me afresh in your Holy Spirit. You see, the Holy Spirit will use your fast to reveal your true spiritual condition in and it will result in a brokenness. One of the most beautiful things about fasting is it brings a brokenness into our spirits. And I want to challenge you on this. When's the last time you were broken before God? Why does it take tragedies to get us broken? Sometimes we need to just say, Lord, break me, break my will, and break me. Even in my heart. I thought about how one time the scripture said that they brought the Ark of the Covenant and they set it in beside Dagon, the God of the Philistines. And the Scripture said that when they came back the next day, Dagon had fallen over on his face and his face was broken.

**Speaker1:** [00:04:48] And that statue, that idol God, was broken to pieces. I read that one day and the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and he said, Why is it? That. A false God can get in my presence and get broken, but my people can come in my presence continually and never be broken. God looks for a broken heart and a contrite spirit and there's too much pride. One thing fasting does is it breaks our pride. It breaks our selfish ambition. By about the third day of a fast, there is a there is a brokenness that comes over me. And, you know, sometimes that manifests through worship and emotion and tears and repentance. And, you know, we see brokenness as a bad thing. But brokenness is God taking the power of a stallion and putting a bridle in his mouth so that he can lead us in the direction that he wants us to go. That's the power of fasting. It brings a brokenness in our life. When's the last time you stop asking God for the car or the house, this, that and the other and ask him, Lord, break me, Break me. You are the potter. I am the clay. Mold me, melt me. I want my life to matter. I want my days to count. You know, when you die, they're going to have two dates on the tombstone.

**Speaker1:** [00:06:21] They're going to have your birth date. They're going to have your death date. And in between, they're going to have the dash. And only you can define what the dash is going to represent. You know, you can't determine the day you're born.

You can't determine the day you die, but you can determine and define what that dash on your tombstone will represent. And I want God to have a broken vessel in Jensen Franklin. I want to be broken before him enough that I can feel what he feels. I can hear what he's saying. I can be his hands extended. I can be the vessel that he can pour new wine into. I don't want to be the same person I was last year. I don't want to be at the same level spiritually that I was last year. And that's why fasting is so powerful. It creates new wineskins for new experiences and new anointings and new breakthroughs and new things. That and revelations that God wants to fill our lives with. Sanctification is a big process of becoming holy in our daily life. And through practicing fasting and prayer, there is a purity. There is a setting apart from the world and from sin that begins to enter your life. Sanctifying sanctification is allowing the Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus in what we do and what we think and what we desire and what we listen to and what we look at.

**Speaker1:** [00:07:51] We do not hear much about sanctification from the pulpits of America today. It's like people don't want to talk about being separate. It's not being different to be different. It's being different to make a difference. And I'm telling you, it's time to confront sin in our lives. God is about was about to lead his chosen people in the Old Testament against the enemies of God. But they could not stand if they were not holy. This is clearly seen in the contrast between Israel's supernatural victory against the city and the people of I. The Bible said that they went against the people of I, but there was sin in the camp. And because there was sin in the camp, they were they were humiliated and defeated. If their sin in our life, then we can't get the victory. So what we have to do is become sanctified. It's the blood of Jesus that cleanses us. But when we begin to fast and pray and get broken before God, he begins to purge, he begins to reveal secret sins. This is what the Bible says in first Thessalonians four, he said, For this is the will of God, even your sanctification. So I'm telling you, there's no need to try to search for the will of God. He says, I'll tell you how you can get in the will of God real quick.

**Speaker1:** [00:09:09] Start being sanctified set apart. And one way you do that is through fasting. Fasting is essential for your sanctification. It's pulling yourself away from the world. It's getting closer to God. Fasting allows you to filter your life and to set yourself apart to seek the Lord. I'm just praying that we will fulfill the prayer of Jesus when He said, Lord, they're not of the world, just as I'm not of the world. Sanctify them

by your truth. Your word is truth. As you sent me, Jesus said. So I send them into the world. I also have for your sakes, he said, I pray that you be sanctified by my truth. Well, fasting will help you identify those areas of hidden sin and the things that are displeasing in your life to God because fasting helps you discern. Between evil and good, discern between the flesh and the Spirit, discern between what God would be pleased with and what God is not pleased with. And I'm praying that as you're fasting, that you'll cleanse your conscience from dead works and that God will begin to do great things. By now. Your fast has led you through many different emotions and levels of God's presence, and you're beginning to see the reward of the humbling of your flesh that can only take place during a fast. You are dying to your own will and desires.

**Speaker1:** [00:10:37] You're sensing the desires and the heartbeat of God. It's filling you and it's prompting you to things that are holy and pure. God's priorities are seldom our priorities. That's the difference in the nature of our our human nature and God's will is sometimes there's a conflict, but fasting helps us to do God's will as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, he said in Isaiah 55. And my thoughts are higher than your thoughts. So how do we position ourselves to hear from God? How do we free ourselves from our own desires and sins? And how do we get to that place? Well, I tell you from first hand experience that fasting causes you to take the sword of God's Word and separate what you want from what you need. When you fast and sanctify yourself unto God, it moves you off the bank and into the miracles. There are too many people on the edge of what God is doing, like Israel. You know, when it was time for Israel to cross over into the promised land, God said, Sanctify yourselves. You can't go where I'm wanting to take you without sanctifying yourself. And I encourage you on this fast, you know, to just say, Lord, we're getting off the bank, We're moving into greater and mightier things. We're sanctifying ourselves, we're cleansing and purging ourselves of everything.

**Speaker1:** [00:12:06] That's not like you take the sword of the spirit and kill some things, kill some things in my life. And I'm and I'm encouraged to know that as you seek him, as you draw nigh to him, he's going to draw nigh to you. You need to be attached to a local body of believers instead of just trying to find your own way. And I encourage you, if you're not in a good church, you need to be crossing together this river and you need to be hooked up to a local church. I encourage you to get off the bank and get right in the middle of what God is doing in the earth today. And as you're fasting and

you're praying, you're sanctifying yourself, God is planning a land that's flowing with milk and honey. Don't quit. Don't give up. You're too close to the promised land. Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow. About this time the scripture said you're going to move in two things that you've been dreaming of and believing for. I'm in agreement with you that on this fast you're going to enter into some promises that you've been longing to see God do in your life. Stay after it, stay in the middle of what God is doing. Don't quit. Don't get weary. Keep fasting because there is a great reward. You're seeking God's priorities and he's going to release his blessings on your life.