



THE CRUSHING

True Sanctuary of Praise
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CRUSHING / SUNTRECHO

- Break into pieces
- To put Satan under foot and trample on him
- The willingness of being broken into fragments from our own individual lives for the edification of Jesus to renovate and re-establish His plan and purpose in our lives.

TRANSITIONING OUT OF THE CRUSHING

Acceptance

Acts 9:1-19

Saul had to accept his actions he had committed previously.

Verse 6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord what do You want me to do?”

Acceptance here is taking responsibility!

PROVERBS 3

²⁹ Don't plan any harm against your neighbor, for he trusts you and lives near you. ³⁰ Don't accuse anyone without cause, when he has done you no harm. ³¹ Don't envy a violent man or choose any of his ways; ³² for the devious are detestable to the LORD, but He is a friend to the upright.

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PROVERBS 3

33 The LORD's curse is on the household of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the righteous; **34** He mocks those who mock, but gives grace to the humble. **35** The wise will inherit honor, but He holds up fools to dishonor.

EXAMINE THY WAYS

⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the sound but seeing no one. ⁸ Then Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing. So they took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. ⁹ He was unable to see for three days and did not eat or drink.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:5

Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)

5 Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith. Examine yourselves. Or do you yourselves not recognize that Jesus Christ is in you?—
unless you fail the test.

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2 PETER 1:10-11

Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)

¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble. ¹¹ For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly supplied to you.

PRAYER AND FASTING

The Mandate to Pray

Prayer is part of every believer's spiritual life in every dispensation. Both the Old and New Testaments record separate commands related to prayer.

PRAYER AND FASTING

The Old Testament reveals that prayer was an integral part of the spiritual life of Israel

(**Ex. 33:13; Num. 12:13; Deut. 4:7; 1 Sam. 7:5; 1 Kings 8:29-30; 2 Chron. 6:34-35; Ps. 5:2**).

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*A DIRECT MANDATE FOR
PRAYER IS FOUND IN
JEREMIAH.*

A direct mandate for prayer is found in Jeremiah.

"Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you." (Jer. 29:12)

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself mandated prayer during the Dispensation of the Hypostatic Union.

PRAYER AND FASTING

"Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you." (Matt. 7:7)

This verse reveals three facets of prayer for all believers: Asking is routine prayer; seeking is prayer with the concept of divine guidance; and knocking is intense prayer or supplication.

"PRAY WITHOUT CEASING."

(1 THESS. 5:17)

The verb "**proseuchomai**" is the present middle imperative means "**pray.**"

"Without ceasing" is not a command to pray constantly, but consistently. Therefore, this verse can be translated, "Make it a habit of prayer" which is a mandate for prevailing prayer.

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PRAYER AND FASTING

- The word "prevailing" means "frequent or common; widespread or predominate."
- Prevailing prayer is frequent, consistent, daily, spontaneous prayer by which believers can uphold other believers before the throne of grace.
- Prevailing prayer is the powerful instrument provided by God to meet the needs, adversities, temptations, and dilemmas of life beyond the specific commands, exhortations, and doctrines that the believer learns from the Word of God.

PRAYER

- One great glaring weakness of the Church in the world today is the lack of a prevailing prayer. The Church needs faithful prayer warriors to enlist in the Lord's artillery.
- "And whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it." (John 14:13-14)
- "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you." (John 15:7)

FASTING

Biblical fasting, unlike fasting for medical or health reasons, must be done with an attitude of seriousness and sincerity. When we fast, we willingly deprive the body of nourishment and the pleasurable taste of food.

The body requires food for sustenance; therefore our hearts and minds must be totally focused and directed towards God so that He may be the full source of our strength during our period of fasting.

FASTING

Fasting must also be done in an attitude of humility. It is not necessary for others to know we are fasting; it is directed towards God. “But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen, and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you” (Matthew 6:17-18).

FASTING

In addition to our attitudes towards God and our stance before man, our motives must also be correct. We should fast in order to further the building up of God's kingdom by seeking to minister to others.

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FASTING

The prophet Isaiah received from the Lord the acceptable motives for our fasts: “Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

(Isaiah 58:6-7).

UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES DID SOME IN THE BIBLE FAST?

When seeking help and guidance from God. The people journeying to Jerusalem fasted to show their sincerity in asking for God's help. (Ezra 8:21-23) Paul and Barnabas at times chose to fast when appointing congregation elders.—
Acts 14:23.

*UNDER WHAT
CIRCUMSTANCES DID SOME
IN THE BIBLE FAST?*

When focusing on God's purpose. After his baptism, Jesus fasted for 40 days to prepare himself to do God's will during his coming ministry.—**Luke 4:1, 2.**

*UNDER WHAT
CIRCUMSTANCES DID SOME
IN THE BIBLE FAST?*

When demonstrating repentance over past sins. Through the prophet Joel, God told unfaithful Israelites: "Return to me with all your hearts, with fasting and weeping and wailing."—

Joel 2:12-15.

UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES DID SOME IN THE BIBLE FAST?

When observing the Day of Atonement. The Law that God gave to the nation of Israel included a command to fast on the annual Day of Atonement. * (Leviticus 16:29-31) Fasting was appropriate on this occasion because it reminded the Israelites that they were imperfect and needed God's forgiveness.

IS FASTING REQUIRED FOR CHRISTIANS?

No. God required the Israelites to fast on Atonement Day, but he eliminated that observance after Jesus permanently atoned for the sins of repentant people. (Hebrews 9:24-26; 1 Peter 3:18) Christians are not under the Mosaic Law, of which Atonement Day was a part. (Romans 10:4; Colossians 2:13, 14) Therefore, each Christian may decide for himself whether to fast.—Romans 14:1-4.

IS FASTING REQUIRED FOR CHRISTIANS?

Christians recognize that fasting is not the focus of their worship. The Bible never associates fasting with happiness. In contrast, true Christian worship is marked by joy, reflecting the personality of Jehovah, “the happy God.”—[1 Timothy 1:11; Ecclesiastes 3:12, 13; Galatians 5:22.](#)

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BIBLICAL FASTING - WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF CHRISTIAN FASTING?

Biblical fasting brings us into a closer union with God. While our bodies are being deprived for the purpose of drawing near to God, He has promised in return to draw near to us. This is a spiritual certainty. As we decrease, the Spirit increases. As individuals we are strengthened and renewed. “...Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day”
(2 Corinthians 4:16).

CHRISTIAN FASTING

This principle served the apostles well during the early church days. Their decisions were made through fasting and prayer; God gave them instructions and directions. “While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off” ([Acts 13:2-3](#)).

CHRISTIAN FASTING

Wicked kings, destined for destruction, received mercy from humbling themselves and fasting (1 Kings 21:29).

The entire city of Nineveh, including animals, fasted upon hearing the pronouncement of judgment from the prophet Jonah and God spared them (Jonah 3:10).

Jesus received divine preparation for His earthly ministry while fasting and enduring temptation. Moses waited upon God forty days and received the divine revelation of God's commandments.

BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Baptism (Baptizo) which means Immerse.

In Hebrew ba'ath means "To Overwhelm"

Isaiah 21:4 "Lawlessness Baptizes me"

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