

# *Renewing The Vision For Prayer And Fasting*

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[This is from a fellowship meeting via Zoom. *Responses from brethren are in this font.*].

I'll just open with a word of prayer and the rest can catch up to us. Let's pray.

Our Gracious Lord, we are just so thankful to be able to take this time with the gifts of prayer and fasting, realizing, Lord, what an important position this is.

Realizing, Lord, that every revival, every move of God started with prayer and fasting. And all of these things, Lord, were a burden by revelation through the opening of the Word. And Your Word has always been a lamp unto our feet, O God. You've always led us. You've always opened up to us a prophetic anointing.

We always were able to see the move of God before it happened and then that allowed us to make preparation. That allowed us to be able to fast and pray, to help different people in their lives.

Because when you open Your Word, Lord, many times it's warning and then judgment. Other times, Lord, it's opening up the sachets of weaponry to show where we are in the Scripture and the tools that You make available to be able to fulfil the vision, walk in the vision and carry out Your plan.

Now, these weapons that You give us, Lord, are not carnal, but they're mighty to the pulling down of strongholds. And right through the past, Lord, You've actually blessed us. And we want tonight to refocus. We want to be able to see the importance of fasting and prayer, and not only see the importance, but feel the burden by revelation.

So Father, even as we would open up the Word, open up the vision, grant us, Lord, that... Because we none of us are greenhorns in these things. All of us, Lord, are battle-scarred veterans.

We know how to take the battle to the enemy. We know how to stand in rank. We know how to keep rank with a perfect heart. And that's what we endeavour to do, Father.

But the Scripture that You would open to us, Lord, I pray that You would grant us understanding and may it give us direction and leadership for this coming new year.

May it build a fire in our souls to be able to utilize the resources and to be able to see ahead. To be able to discern spirits, to be able to, not just pray from circumstances, but find Your mind for the matter: understand why it is that a certain prayer was not answered.

To see, Lord, whether it is at our end that we have left stones unturned, or whether it be at the other end where the request was made and we needed to give advice and counsel to those who are on our prayer list. Because a part of that prayer and fasting, Lord, is revealing the secrets; opening up, Lord, the reasons why certain things are not being fulfilled.

Now, I believe we were coming into those things, but I pray You'd take us even further into those things. Because I don't believe, Lord, it's just a matter of us speaking to You and that's it. But I pray that You'd allow us to come into an even greater depth of understanding of this position of fasting and prayer.

So I commit it all into Your hands, Lord. Unite us, quicken us to Your purpose, as we commit our night into Your hands now, just with thanksgiving upon our hearts. Father, I ask these things in the precious and wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Thank You, Lord.

So I just wanted to go into the Scripture first. If you would turn to Psalms chapter 35, and I'll read from verse 10. This is a Psalm of David, but it is showing us in this Psalm, a purpose for fasting and prayer. Because fasting and prayer is not just because we want to do that, or we want to twist God's arm. There's always a purpose in fasting and prayer.

### **Psalm Chapter 35**

*10 All my bones shall say, LORD, who is like unto thee,*

Now look at the passion: Every fiber of his being is in tune with God.

Now, can I say it like this? When, for instance, I go down into the garden, I'll look at a plant, I'll know there is a certain need. I'll know this one needs a feed of something. This one is wilting a little. This one's been overwatered.

So you become so sensitive, and this is what David is saying. He's in such a relationship with God. He's saying:

*All my bones shall say, LORD, who is like unto thee,*

Now look at the focus;

*which deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him,*

That's a deliverance from the black horse.

*yea, the poor and the needy from him that spoileth him?*

That's the merchants.

*11 False witnesses did rise up;*

That's political power.

*they laid to my charge things that I knew not.*

That's accusations against the Saints. What for? To trigger a response from the terrestrial.

*12 They rewarded me evil for good to the spoiling of my soul.*

So all of these things that were happening around David, it'll have an effect of disrupting the inner man. And this is why we must know... even before fasting and prayer, we must know that the enemy is trying to spoil my soul and render me ineffective.

*13 But as for me, when they were sick,*

Who? All of those that try to 'spoil my soul.' Now look at this:

*when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth:*

Now because we're not rendering evil for evil, we're not bad-mouthing them. We're not allowing ourselves to be spoiled on the inside. But when they were sick, I started to pray and fast for them.

Look at the attitude.

*I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.*

So what I'm saying, Saints, is this is the purpose for fasting and prayer, is to get ourselves into the right condition to speak the Word. And David is using those that will speak falsely against you. So instead of us getting in a terrestrial mind, to break into that power of prayer again, look at the preparation...

*They rewarded me evil for good to the spoiling of my soul.*

*13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth:*

Now that's a saying in the Bible, 'My clothing was sackcloth.' That's a saying of preparation for fasting.

*I humbled my soul with fasting;*

Because that's what fasting is for: Humble our soul, get ourselves out of the way, so that what? So we can speak. So we can bring forth the power of the Spoken Word.

*When I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.*

And out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh (**Matthew 12:34**).

Now look at the importance of preparation. Not haughty, not arrogant, but humble. *I humbled my soul* by praying for them that despitely use me and 'my prayer returned unto me.'

Now I wonder brethren, if you've ever felt that you couldn't pray, where you... This is what happens sometimes. "I just couldn't break through." That's terrestrial. That doesn't mean we quit. That means you've got to humble your soul.

When I am preparing for a service, I've got to humble my soul. I say, "Lord, I can't do it. That's Your Bride. Don't leave me to do the job. You're going to have to come and do the job Yourself." And I put that responsibility back to the Lord. "Lord, I'm approaching with a heart that desires to be led by the Holy Ghost."

**14** *I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother:*

Who had been my friend or brother? The fella who spoke evil against me; the fella that was trying to spoil my soul. The fella that God was using so that I could break into the power of prayer again. Man, a Mighty God, eh?

*I behaved myself as though he had been my friend or brother:*

Look at the heart.

*I bowed down heavily, as one that mourneth for his mother.*

And I begin to pray for them. And my prayer returned unto me.

Now this is what happens, Saints, when the sky seems brassy. I don't know whether any of you have come across that before, but it just seems like you couldn't pray. And you tried to get quiet, and then the house was noisy, and you didn't get the time because you have to go do this and do that.

All of that is actually God giving you the opportunity to humble yourself and break into that power of prayer again. And THEN you start to pray.

That there is coming from one that knows how to break through. Any of you have tried that?

So look at how many times it looks like negative things are given to you to help you to prepare for fasting and prayer.

So what do you get from that scripture? What stands out? I don't want to go on to the next scripture without us fully grasping what was going on in this portion of scripture.

Love for his people.

Right. Even though they were persecuting...

In such simplicity.

Right. Love for the people. So important. Yeah.

Beautiful scripture.

Yeah. This is preparation for prayer and God putting you in circumstances to challenge you to become in the right condition.

Anybody else?

Getting yourself out of the way. Like even though there's things that can happen, or have happened and they're always going to happen around you, that you need to just get out of your terrestrial, I guess. Get out of your terrestrial so that you can prepare yourself, like you said.

Right. And look what it says too. Look what it says:

'My prayer came back to me when I humbled myself.' In other words, we didn't have to fight. We didn't have to get caught up in the rarus [Māori for 'grievances']. We never viewed what God was doing to us and for us as a negative, but we used it to go deep into prayer, because it said, 'and my prayer returned unto me.'

Where did it go?

It went into the circumstance.

Yeah, exactly.

It didn't stay with the eyes on Jesus because if you had of, then you would have stayed in Christ's mind. Because it's similar to when He's on Calvary. He is lashed, He is persecuted, but He is still bringing people into redemption. He is still forgiving those that have harmed Him. So He's able to still get that mind. Whereas I know personally, I'm just going to be honest... I struggle at times when I have a lot of things going on around me. So I do find it hard to break through and then I get all upset and I get haughty and my prayer leaves me. And I don't want that this year. So this is like a really amazing scripture right here, just unfolded and opened up.

Yeah. And it'd be good, brethren, to be able to meditate on it because we all want that part.

*and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.*

Because where was it? In our head? It has to return to our heart and then we speak from the heart. And then it comes to a place where... Because you are just in love with the Lord... Because remember, that's how it started.

Look at how he starts.

**10** *All my bones shall say, LORD, who is like unto thee,*

In other words, my whole focus was in worship. My whole being was in love with the Lord. Circumstances pulled the prayer out of my bosom. But when I humbled myself and I began to pray for those that despitefully use me, my prayer returned to my bosom. Now pray. And it's actually fasting that helps to bring your prayer back to your bosom. That's one of the purposes of prayer.

So I thought we'd just start with that, just to help us to refocus, just to know the direction that we would want to go. Now let's look at another scripture:

I'm just thinking about that scripture that says that 'we should love our enemy.' Is it the same as in verse 14?

Right. Yeah. You're good to them that spitefully use you. But it's using some of these tough things to prepare our hearts, so our prayer returned back to us. But you fellas never get hoha [Māori for 'irritated'], eh? [Pastor chuckles].

Come with me to Daniel chapter 9. I want to read from verse 2. This is something else to show you how we prepare for fasting and prayer. The first one was more about the purpose of fasting and prayer. Fasting; so we can come into a condition where our prayer returned back into our bosom. And then Daniel chapter 9 is preparation for prayer and fasting.

### **Daniel Chapter 9**

*2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.*

So he knew by the prophecies of Jeremiah, and now he had calculated the time. It was sixty-eight years that they had been in bondage and there was two more years before they would be brought out of Babylon and take back into the promised land.

So look at what prepared him for fasting and prayer, knowing the time and the season, knowing that the Lord was about to bring redemption and restoration. Now there's a purpose to fast and pray.

Remember, fasting and prayer was when they understood the mind and the will of God. That's what caused Daniel to prepare to pray.

So fasting and prayer is because of an understanding of the Word. We begin to fast and pray to enter into the vision, to know all the detail of what needs to be done, see? Because this is a part that I believe we should be breaking into for 2025, is if we need to give counsel to people that have put in a request, the Lord reveal to us some details. "You need to do this before you can receive your healing." Because we have to break into the prophetic part.

We shouldn't settle in 2025 for something not to be settled, because you are the resources that should be able to break into those realms. "I want to know why this request hasn't been answered yet."

So watch it now. I'll carry on. I'm just laying in the thought.

Now that Daniel knows the Word and the will of the Lord, he knows there's restoration, there's redemption. "We're coming out of Babylon." This is the second exodus, right? Now we're just about ready for the third exodus. We are in a very similar timeframe and season. But this third exodus is to take us in the rapture.

**3** *And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:*

Is there a purpose for him to fast and pray? Gotta be a purpose. The purpose was, "Okay, we're coming out within two years, but Lord, we need some of the detail."

So our fasting and prayer is like, "Lord, this person wants deliverance from these things. What is hindering? What will help them to come to that place of deliverance?" Here's your pattern right here. Now I want you to meditate on the scriptures that I give you.

**4** *And I prayed unto the LORD my God,*

Now watch him. Watch him. While he's praying and fasting he is conditioning himself. That's the most important part, Saints. Fasting and prayer is to condition ourselves to be in a right place where God can use you.

**4** *And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;*

**5** *We have sinned,*

Did Daniel sin? Eh? Did Daniel sin? Teresa reckons "No." Why? Why are you saying "No"?

Because he knew his people so well and he'd been studying the scriptures, but he had humbled himself like that first scripture that you said. He put himself in the same boat as his people.

When he said, 'We have sinned,' he entered into the sin of the people. He didn't go in the same way. Remember, he wouldn't partake of the King's meat (**Daniel 1:8**). He would not be rehabilitated. He wouldn't bow down to the image. He kept himself pure in the Word.

But look at what it means... Like we looked at the first Psalm: Look at what it means 'to be able to humble oneself.' Because that what Daniel was doing? He hadn't sinned, but he was entering into the sin of the people. Look at the humility. He identified himself with the sins of the people.

*We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:*

He didn't do that. Daniel didn't do that. He stayed pure and clean, but look at the way a man humbles himself. Because if you can identify with the sins of the people, you can enter into the feeling of the infirmities of God and seek forgiveness from the heart. You're not just wishy-washy about it. You're not just saying, "I know, Lord, there are a bunch of sinners, but help them anyway."

No, "We have sinned."

**6** *Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets,*

Because he knows how important it is to find out the details, and look at what it takes to find the details. Humbling oneself again.

*Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.*

Now, if we want those results... If we want the results that Daniel got: Because remember, when he prayed and he fasted, not only did the Lord reveal to him when they would come out, but he revealed to them when they'd come out: When they'd rebuild the temple. He revealed the Gentile dispensation. He revealed the trumpets that would sound. He revealed The Seventy Weeks of Daniel after he fasted and prayed, and look at the detail that came out (**Daniel 9:24-27**).

He revealed the detail of 'Messiah being cut off in the midst of the week.' Sixty-nine weeks, and then the seventieth week; Messiah ministering for three and a half years. He revealed the detail of the two prophets of Revelations chapter 11, preaching for the last half of the week; three and a half years. And while that preaching was going on, He revealed to him the Gentile Bride would be in the rapture.

So look at what was accomplished by fasting and prayer. Look at the mystery of the mind of Christ that was made known by fasting and prayer, by afflicting one's soul.

I'm sharing these things with you to allow you to see how to walk in the vision, how we can return back to one hundred percent prayer lines, one hundred percent deliverance.

So now with those two scriptures, does anything stand out in the behaviour of those that were fasting and praying? Does anything stand out for you? Because you've got to catch these things.

Nothing hindered him; not the sins of the people, not even his own self. He just pressed in and kept understanding the mind and the will of the Lord. Like you were saying, for us; when people give us prayers to have more understanding of coming events and redemption plan. So there's more to it in prayer and fasting than just going into prayer. But he had a purpose to go into prayer, to get himself out of the way and to find the mind of the Lord for the people.

Yep. Sister Margaret, you wanted to say something?

To me, the value, the importance of preparation. Passion, feeling of infirmities of the petition, those that are playing the petition. Entering into those things, and so that our prayers that don't elevate; they come from their head to the heart. But yet they ascend to the One who will bring the answers.

Right. That's good. Eli, you got something?

A lot of it in my aspect, was sacrificial love on display.

Right.

A lot of it... When you've gotten yourself into that place, where you're not thinking about your prayer; preparation to be able to come and speak with the heart. And, you know, it's like what you were preaching on Sunday. It's a lot to do with love projecting and when love projects, it becomes... While your faith is that much more greater. And then when sacrificial love comes on, you know, then you can have... you become that kinsman redeemer to be able to put yourself on that path, being able to



activate that. And then with that, you get such a faith that it becomes rapturing faith. And then that's when the hundred percent prayer line comes through.

Right.

Because it's just like what Daniel was doing, you know, you pray in such a way that you get the details. It's like how the Lord can go right down to the bed chamber and know the secrets, right down to the itty bitty (**2 Kings 6:12**). And when you have information, information is power. And when you have the right characteristics, which is love, you know, the power that you are able to display with your prayer. You know, it gets to the part, "Where can we go wrong?" To a place like that. Just the thought.

Yeah. Because there has to be the love for the people. And a part of that love is being able to humble ourselves and afflict our soul. Because to be able to understand the requirements to appease God's wrath, he realized that he's got to break into those realms, identify himself with the sin and iniquity of the people, and then look at the detail that was opened.

Seventy Weeks was opened up, because all he wanted to know was, 'How do we come out? When do we come out?' And then He described the detail all the way down to the Smiting Stone. So I'm saying that this is the detail that WE need to know and understand. And this is the detail WE can unfold.

Now one of the other points, and I'll make it, because probably it'd be difficult if you haven't got a ministerial gift: One of the details is his dedication to knowing and understanding the Word. He knew by the books, the time and the season. So we should know by looking at prophecy, by hearing the Eagle anointing coming across the pulpit, even by understanding what the Prophet said, how late the hour is.

The opening of the Word is what caused him to fast and pray, the revelation of the Word, the urgency of the hour. And look at God's grace to open a detail that he didn't even ask for. It's the same with us. This is what it'll take Saints for us to find the detail.

Now you imagine if we can get the whole crew understanding these things, understanding these principles and fulfilling what we see fulfilled in the scripture.

Now another scripture I want you to look at is 1 Corinthians chapter 7, verse 5 and 6. This, for me, it's the sacredness of fasting and prayer. It's not just something that we approach casual, there's a sacredness to it. So 1 Corinthians chapter 7, verse 5, it's speaking about a husband and a wife and it's saying there:

### **1 Corinthians Chapter 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;*

So this is the sacredness of fasting and prayer. So what's that defraud mean? It means 'Deprive ye not one another' and you're talking here... I'm talking about the sacredness of fasting and prayer. It's

saying, 'Don't deprive one another of sexual relationships, except it be with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer.' That's the sacredness of fasting and prayer.

*and come together again, (after fasting and prayer), that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency. (For your lack of self-control).*

We're getting into another level on this now, but a lot of you would have understood that anyway, eh? And then he says this;

**6** *But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.*

Now you can take that same principle when the children of Israel were ready to cross over the River Jordan, they were going to go from Shittim into Gilgal. They were going to go from the wilderness into the promised land. Then three days before they crossed over the husbands were told, 'Don't come at your wives for three days,' in preparation for crossing over into the promised land. It's the same principle right here.

And then even communion was so serious. Taking of communion; that it had the same principle. Then Paul says, 'I speak by permission and not of commandment.' But what he's saying is, 'This will help you to understand the sacredness of fasting and prayer.'

You see, this is why I'm saying to you, when I wanted to open up the vision; I want you to refocus. I want us to not leave one stone unturned. I want us to be able to hit the mark.

Any questions on those scriptures so far? Any of these things you didn't know?

Now one more scripture. I want to go to Acts chapter 14 and verse 19 and it'd be good... I want you all to go back over those scriptures and make them your own.

## **Acts Chapter 14**

So I looked at the sacredness of fasting and now I want to look at the urgency of fasting and prayer.

**19** *And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.*

They stoned him unto death; thought he was dead. But would there be, like an urgency in the hearts of the believers, after their prophet had been stoned by the religious and political realms?

**20** *Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city:*

Rises a man from certain death. What rises a man up like that? Would it be prophecy?

What about the Lord? Prophecy drew Him up out of the grave. 'I'll not suffer my holy one to see corruption' (**Psalms 16:10**). And what about Paul? It had already been prophesied that he must preach in certain places.

Now even the enemy trying to take out the power of the Word, they couldn't do it. Prophecy rose up Paul.

Now what I'm trying to show you is the importance of the power of the prophecy of prayer. When your prayer returns back into your bosom. And when you speak... Because this is another thing, I want you to do is, I want you to take note of what you said under inspiration. Can you do it? Are you hearing me? I'm talking about not just in the Friday night prayer meeting. I'm talking about when you broke into the supernatural realm. I want you to note it down, what you said. Now this is another stage of you maturing.

Why would we want to know what He said? Anybody?

I was just going to say like, you know, like it's a prophecy. Because maybe somebody else had that and then you're confirming it, like it's a witness.

Right. That's good sister.

Prophecy rose Paul from certain death. Prophecy will bring healing to the body. Prophecy, 'I'll not suffer my Holy one to see corruption,' became the Bible and it was recorded.

So then this is not just you in your prayer closet. This is the recording. This is you writing down what you said by inspiration and then what are we going to do with that? What do you think we're going to do with that? Where is it going to go? Is it going to be public domain? Is it going to... what? Think about it.

Put it in our own Book of Acts.

Sharon?

I was just thinking that when we write it down, that's part of the detail and if I get a part of the detail and someone else gets a part of the detail and someone else gets a part of that detail, that creates the picture. Now we can really see what that vision is or what that part is to move forward.

Exactly. And different parts of the Body are bringing a different part of the picture to make the vision clear. Now this is in your own time of fasting and prayer.

So actually, when I bow my soul and preach the Word, the whole church knows it. But what we'll do with this is to help to refine the wine. This is to make us more conscious of what different ones we're seeing and praying. And then we can come to certain conclusions because we're not in a prayer meeting praying together. We are in the channel with God, each in a place of inspiration. And it's here how God reveals Himself through you.

Now this is why I bought the other scriptures first. This is why I felt not to have the prayer and fasting meeting last night while we were distracted. You see why we had to break into this... In fact, I was thinking, maybe this needed to be a kanohi to kanohi [Māori for 'face to face'], but this is preparation for that. This is giving you the tools to know how we're approaching 2025. This is allowing you to be visionary. This is detail. When you've got the detail... How did he get the detail? I want the detail like Daniel, and it's got to come through a many-membered Body.

Let's carry on a little. Verse 20 again:

*Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up,*

So prayer has already been had for Paul. Those that loved the ministry were lifting up the hands of the ministry. And even though he got stoned to death, the power of fasting and prayer rose him up.

*he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.*

**21** *And when they had preached the gospel to that city,*

The man gets stoned to death, raises up, walks fifteen kilometers to the next city and starts preaching again. That's the power of fasting and prayer. That's the supernatural realm that you fellas have got to find. And I want to be able to read in the book what you prayed and what took place after you prayed. And I'll tell you something, no other church in the world will be doing this, but we will.

*And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,*

Look at the hiding that he got, and he just carries on preaching the gospel. He begins to preach because of what? The power of fasting and prayer.

You see, fasting and praying for the ministry should be always on the list. Lifting up the hands of the ministry should be always on the list. Praying for Andrew, praying for Andy or whoever the Lord lays on your heart.

You'll never be able to stop the mind battles, but you'll be able to give wisdom through the power of prayer in how to handle the mind battles. You following me?

What were you going to say?

I just went and looked what the Prophet said about that scripture, and he said,

*We believe. By faith we receive it. But, if the brother, not disputing with him, I don't believe in that. But if the brother would only have read that how Paul was stoned to death, and the saints stood over him and prayed till life come back in him. How that Paul preached all night, one night ...*  
**(‘Joseph Meeting His Brethren’ 56-1230 #151).**

I didn't realize that.

You see, what I was talking about is to show you... because sometimes we can be casual with fasting and prayer. There is an urgency of fasting and prayer. It's like you cannot wait to get in and do your part and let the resource within you... Let that prayer that has returned back to your bosom speak out. And then you even sometimes, when it's not your turn, 'Oh Lord, it's Sister Margaret's turn this time, but I'm going to jump in too,' because some do that.

It's not a matter of dragging yourself through on your nine to nine. 'Oh, thank You, Lord, I made it.' It's because there's such an urgency and there's a burden by revelation. It's like, 'Man, I need another day. I won't tell the brethren, but I'll jump in anyway.'

Give me the detail of what you said in that condition, because that's showing a sacrificial love. This is not a duty anymore; this is a burden by revelation. I can't wait for my turn; I've got to jump in now.

You see what I mean? Urgency.

*And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,*

How do they know where to go? Like Treez was saying, the brethren that stood over him while he was dead, raised him up by prayer, are the ones that are praying, "Lord, open the door over here, Lord, open the door here."

And then one of your details, you opened up and you said, "I prayed that Brother Malcolm would be able to go down into that village in Thailand." Detail.

Watch what they were doing in verse 22;

**22** *Confirming the souls of the disciples,*

You think that these disciples would have heard about how Paul was stoned to death? And then all of a sudden, the power of prayer raised him up again. How encouraged they would have been. And that was the results of the gifts of fasting and prayer.

So they were *confirming the souls of the disciples*; in other words, strengthening the souls of the disciples,

*and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.*

Now, tribulation doesn't take away the burden. It increases the urgency of the burden. And that's why I'm saying, Saints, it may not be your day, but there's such an urgency of it. 'I'm going to jump in on this one as well. I feel inspired. Maybe somebody is praying for me, but I feel inspired to jump in here.' We're not limited to time. And then I want to hear the detail of what He said through you.

So Brethren, do you know how to take notes of what He said? You know it when it's not you that's speaking. And I want to hear it, because I want to hear what He said, because I want that to line up with what I'm preaching. All of these things will go hand in hand. All of the gifts are to tautoko [Māori for 'support'] and to confirm the Word.

**23** *And when they had ordained them elders in every church,*

...because these were just young churches. How did they find the elders? Fasting and prayer opened up the door. They got to find out who was the elder? Who has ministerial gifts? Fasting and prayer opened up the channel, so that Titus, a young brother, can go down and ordain elders in the church.

You see, fasting and prayer is not just for healing bodies. I'm showing you the scope of fasting and prayer. Fasting and prayer can reveal the names associated with the gift. Fasting and prayer can identify ministerial gifts. And after fasting and prayer, the channel of inspiration opened to the ministry. Hands are laid on these elders and members are placed in the Body because of fasting and prayer.

*when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.*

In other words, they set the church in order. They used prayer and fasting so that these brethren could keep rank with a perfect heart. They found the names in the Book in the region, so that many souls were added to the Body as they had need. They didn't just forget about these elders that they had ordained. They kept them until they were fully established in the Word.

You think the list would have got fairly long? 'Oh, but we're running out of things to pray for.' I'm giving you. I'm giving you so much more land to possess. 'Oh, but the requests... I prayed for that and I'm just repeating myself now.' No, get that out of your head, find the new ground, birth the power of the Spoken Word.

One quote of the Prophet and my part is done. In a message, '**Sirs, We Would See Jesus**' (61-0208 #231) he said:

*When we leave tonight we'll, like those from Emmaus,*

Remember those two that were walking along the road to Emmaus? And they said, 'Did not our heart stir within us as He spoke with us along the way' (**Luke 24:32**).

*like those from Emmaus, we want to see You do now, the things that You did before Your crucifixion, and Your promises that You would do it, and after two thousand years, may You manifest Yourself tonight, and when we go home, we'll say, "Did not our hearts burn within us, as He made Himself known among us tonight?" And Lord, I believe it'll make the people come back to prayer and fasting,*

What? The revelation of the Word. What? God stirring your heart by opening up the scripture.

*'Did not our heart stir within us...?'*

And the Prophet says;

*I believe it'll make the people come back to prayer and fasting, and this little church will grow, and the power of God will be in it, and prophecies and great signs and wonders, and women and men straightening up and walking before God softly.*

They're going where angels fear to tread. They're walking softly now. Because people walk with hobnail boots where angels fear to tread, but now they're walking softly. They're walking meekly. They're walking humbly. They're walking in Love.

*And, oh, what a fear of God will come over the country, Lord. Give them great signs and wonders. Grant it. Strengthen Your Church, Lord. O God, call Your people; pull them out of this chaos in the*

*last days. Grant it. We'll wait for You, Father, to speak to us in the prayer line, as we call, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Look at how powerful that quote is.

We need the Word to stir our heart, to get us in the vision, to get us refocused: To show us the urgency of the power of prayer, to show us the sacredness of fasting and prayer, to show us how to prepare for fasting and prayer, to show us the purpose for fasting and prayer.

Now, Saints that's pretty compact, but that's like, for me, a preliminary to what we want to accomplish for 2025. So what do you reckon? Can we do it? Do you feel like the Angel is stirring the waters, causing you to raise up into a higher realm?

Amen.

Is that nice direction and leadership by the Holy Spirit? Was it because some of you were praying for it?

Amen.

It should be.

You know this was coming. There should have been some prayer that I might unfold to you the vision and how we're going to refocus.

You know what happened, Saints? I was preparing these things, pushed the wrong button and the notes disappeared. But praise the Lord, He wrote them on the tablets of my heart.

You know what it's like, Brother Dave, Eli, when you got your notes; press the wrong button and your notes are gone out into the ether waves and you had to pray and go back into them ether waves to get those notes back again. But that's the importance of prayer, Saints.

You know, I don't even have to go... I don't even think I have to go into any negativeness.

Open the Word, renew the vision, give us the land to possess. And then you all are saying, "I'm just as strong for war as I was at the beginning of 2024. Give me my mountain." I gave you the mountain, now go and take the land. Slay the giants.

Now who can sum up. Who can sum up and put it on our chat?

You want me to throw up some notes and then what you fellas can do is add to it, add to it the points that you were seeing tonight, so that we've got a document, we've got something that we can look and live.