



How things fit together in the Kingdom

Fasting & Intercession

Using Isaiah 58:5 as a justification for a method of fasting and intercession is illogical as it's set in an Old Covenant (OC) framework. Many may say that the verse is part of a prophetic discourse, and therefore, should be accepted as 'God's' mind on the matter for all time. However, everything in the OT must be understood from the context in which it was written. This passage was written to the Jews of the time, and so it has OC with its legalism as the setting, not the New Covenant (NC). The first verse verifies this, where it states, "Declare to my people...". That's not us in the 21st century.

The people of that time didn't have the ability to form an intimate relationship with the Trinity, of the type that we can, because they rejected his offer of that at Mt Sinai. They chose Egyptian-style religion and legalism at that time, out of fear and from what they had been familiar with, so he gave them what they wanted – rules and regulations. They wanted a national religion so they could be like the other nations, just like they did when they asked for a king, instead of YHWH's rulership over them later on.

To understand the context of Isaiah 58:5, the reader needs to go back to the previous two verses to get the full matter of the message. In addition, the content of verse 5 are questions that YHWH asks them – they're not instructions in how to do fasting and intercession.

IMPORTANT: Read the whole chapter in the NIV to get the full story. Don't just read one selected verse.

What YHWH was saying to the people was to forget all that religious stuff and be a representative of him to the nations. Notice that that's what Father is calling us to do, to be a representative of him to everyone we come in contact with. The Jews were to reflect his heart and bring freedom to people, rather than bondage of any kind. That was exactly the message and the task of Jesus of Nazareth, and as he's our prototype¹, we need to be doing the same. He came to set the captives free from everything, and that included religion of all kinds.

NOTE: It's an important part of the preliminary steps to having Father deprogram and reprogram our thinking, to realise that none of the OT (i.e. OC) is applicable to us today – none of it.

As we are this side of the OC, we are to act out of our Internal Kingdom where we've allowed the King to change our heart and mind. Of course, that reprogramming only happens if we submit ourselves to him to allow it to take place, fully and effectively. We're then able to release his unconditional love to others, because we've received it from him.

Do we need to read the Bible to get the reprogramming we need? Definitely not! That will only bring confusion and lead us into religion and legalism, rather than freedom and liberty. We will need instruction from older, more mature sons, but our training and instruction should come primarily from the Trinity through spiritual communication. The important processes we need to engage in to achieve this are:

- to learn to engage Father's heart,
- to know his heart, his intentions and his purposes,
- so that releases us to be in agreement with him in every area, and

1 – "See Me As Your Prototype" (24-3-2015) canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/33b-See-Me-As-Your-Prototype.pdf

- then we outwork that in our own heart.

We don't need to do Jewish fasting and intercession under the NC. That's because the King's Kingdom is all about the heart, not actions. We also don't need to appease him, or try to please him in any way, to ensure the outpouring of his blessings. The Kingdom (NC) is all about relationship, just as it was at creation, with Adam, Ezer² and The Son³, in a three-way partnership, as they governed the Earth. That relationship was (and is) of an intimate type that's intended to become deep oneness.

When we're in relationship with Father and receiving his unconditional love, we should be looking to release his heart to others. That's very different to pleading with him to empower us to set the captives free, or to bind up the broken-hearted, or to make changes in our society, etc. Believe it or not, that's what most fasting and intercession aims to do. Can you see the falsity of it?

As sons, we're not meant to ask for Father's intervention in our affairs, or that of our nation. Instead, we're to find out what he wants us to do as his representatives on Earth. We need to spiritually 'see' his intentions and outwork them to others through his unconditional love, just like Jesus of Nazareth did. That's very different to praying, fasting and interceding to get him to do what we want.

Even the content of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke don't apply to us, because they were written to those under the OC. And, by the way, the NC didn't formally come into play until AD70 with the destruction of the temple and the sacrificial system. The interim period from the Resurrection 'til then was the generational time for the Jews to repent. Paul's writing, on the other hand, comes from his reprogramming by the King, so they are worthy of consideration today.

Conclusion

Instead of struggling with fasting, praying and intercession, we need to employ Kingdom functionalities: Rest, peace, trust, compliance, love and relationship.

- **WATCH:** "A Journey of the Heart: Exploring Fasting and Intercession"
www.youtube.com/watch?v=jw7BjS0qQpM

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2 – "Revealing Ezer" (12-6-2017) canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/05-Revealing-Ezer.pdf

3 – He was the one who always manifested in the natural realm, not Father.