

Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

Ezra 8:21-23

“Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river of Ahava, that we might afflict ourselves before our God, to seek of Him a right way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance – for I was ashamed to require of the king a squad of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy on our way, because we had spoken to the king, saying, “The hand of our God is upon all them for good who seek Him”... So we fasted and besought our God for this and He was entreated by us.” (Ezra 8:21-23)

Have you yet to introduce fasting as a regular discipline in your life?

And then there are times when the situation requires us to call for extra times of personal, family or church wide fasting. Sometimes events are so overwhelming, so beyond our own abilities to cope that we need to exercise the discipline of corporate fasting. Fasting is an intensifier. It creates a deeper spiritual hunger within us and helps us remove our fleshly nature from the picture, so that, we may tune our inner man more closely to the heart of our Father! Fasting should be viewed not as a work to get God’s attention, but as a means to better hear His voice thus enabling faith to arise!

Fasting says, “I mean business.” “I’m in need.” I humble myself before You Lord.” Like Ezra, the modern church should be ashamed – ashamed we speak of miracles yet rarely do we see them – ashamed that we live as the world lives – ashamed that our boast is in ourselves and not in the Lord!

“So we fasted and sought our God and He was entreated by us!” He will do no less for you, if you will follow the example set by Ezra.”

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