



UNTO THE LORD - 7 DAY FAST DAY 5

January 12th, 2023

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DAY 5

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:38-41; Revelation 2:1-7

I want God.

I know that every one of you can say that same thing. As we enter day 5 of the fast today, I want to remind us that the pursuit of Him and His presence is the highest call. It is first priority. It is what we were created for, and we will not be fulfilled by anything outside of that. We were made for His Kingdom, to sit in His glory and to see His face. We were made for constant communion.

We live in a time where many in the church have changed the priorities in God's house. The focus has wavered. Maybe the fire is not stewarded, ungodly vessels are brought in, we have gotten busy with the wrong things, or the glory has departed and God is left unattended to. He is left as secondary and lesser than when He is worthy to be centerpiece. As we take this time to consecrate ourselves, fast and pray before the Lord, let God search His house in us like He did the temple. Let Holy Spirit clean out the things that have taken our attention and left Him ignored. Let Him validate, but also let Him correct and redirect so we can be a greater dwelling place for Him. This is our desire. This is His desire.

Andrew Murray made the statement, "No amount of activity in the King's service will make up for neglect of the King Himself." As we let God search us as His temples, has He been neglected? Is He the main priority still? Let's return to Him if there be any area in our lives that have caused us to be busy in His presence, but neglecting Him entirely. Let's return our gaze.

Martha experienced this redirection of her priorities from Jesus Himself. She was busy in the house when He came to visit and “distracted with much serving,” but the Lord said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:38-42 ESV). It was not that Martha’s works were bad, nor was he belittling her for serving, but she was busy with everything but being with Him. We can get so proud of our busyness and works sometimes, yet have neglected Him completely. Stop and be with Him. He is more important than any other thing in our lives. Loving and knowing Him is our greatest honor.

“I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lamp stand from its place, unless you repent.” Revelation 2:2-5 ESV

The Lord saw and acknowledged both Martha and the Church of Ephesus’ works. They were not bad, but the neglect of the King was the issue. Nothing should be seen as more necessary or important than being with Him and loving Him every day. Do not neglect ministering to Him. He wants all of us and first place. God, search your houses and cleanse your temples today. Call us back to first love and you being first priority if there be any area(s) we have neglected You. May You always be welcomed and loved in your house.

I want God.

I know you do too.