

“SPIRITUAL HUNGER”

OBJECTIVE: TO STUDY THE SCRIPITURES TO DISCOVER HOW MY HUNGER IS NOT ABOUT BREAD ALONE. TO LOOK AT WHAT MAKES ME HUNGRY FOR GOD AND HIS PRESENCE

KEY SCRIPTURES: PROVERBS 10:13/ PROVERBS 25:21/
PSALM 34:10/ MATTHEW 4:1-4/ MATTHEW 5:6

IN OUR STUDY TODAY WE FIND JESUS GOING THROUGH AN ATTACK IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM AS WELL AS IN HIS PHYSICAL BODY. JESUS IS ALL GOD AND IS ALSO ALL MAN WRAPPED IN AN EARTHLY BODY. GOD COME IN THE FLESH, EMMANUEL- GOD WITH US. (MATTHEW 1:23)

JESUS WAS BAPTIZED BY JOHN AND IMMEDIATELY HE WAS LED BY THE SPIRIT INTO THE WILDERSNES. THE ULTIMATE TEST OF OUR OBEDIENCE IS TO BE PUT IN A PLACE WHERE WE CAN DISOBEY.

WE CAN ONLY DEMONSTRATE TRUE OBEDIENCE WHEN WE ARE CONFRONTED OR TEMPTED TO DISOBEY. OUR CONVICTIONS ARE ONLY MADE STRONG IF THEY CAN HOLD UP UNDER PRESSURE.

I THOUGHT IT WAS SO IRONIC THAT WHILE JESUS WAS AT THE END OF A FOURTY DAY FAST. THAT THE ENEMY WOULD TEMPT HIM WITH FULFILLING HIS HNGER. (V3)

HUNGER: IT IS A STRONG DESIRE OR CRAVING (OUR APPITITE)

IN THIS CASE JESUS WAS HUNGRY FOR FOOD! FOR MOST OF US WE COULD BE IN THIS PLACE AS WELL WITH FOOD; BUT SPIRITUALLY WE ARE DRAWN BY SO MANY OTHER STRONG DESIRES FOOD AND BE LOW ON OUR LIST THAT WE ARE HUNGRY FOR.

OUR HUNGER FOR FOOD HAS AN OBJECTIVE TO FUEL OR SUSTAIN OUR PHYSICAL BODY. MUCH LIKE SOME OF OUR OTHER NATURAL DESIRES WE CAN OVER DO IT TRYING TO FULFILL THAT DESIRE. OUR BRAINS TRIGGER A REACTION IN OUR BODY THAT ALERTS OUR GASTOINTESTINAL TRACTS TO SLOWLY EMPTY BY PUSHING FOOD THROUGH THE STOMACH LARGE AND SMALL INTESTINES.

SPECIALIZED CONTRACTIONS CALLED THE MIGRATING MOTOR COMPLEX (MMC) SWEEP UP UNDIGESTED FOOD, WHICH IS A PROCESS THAT TAKES AT LEAST TWO HOURS. THE FINAL PHASE OF THE MMC IS REGULATED BY A HORMONE CALLED MOTILIN. MOTILIN – CONTROLLED CONTRACTIONS CAUSE OUR STOMACHS TO RUMBLE COINCIDES WHY WE HAVE HUNGER PAINS BECAUSE OF THE CONTRACTIONS. ANOTHER HORMONR IMPLICATED IN HUNGER CONTROL IS GHRELIN. THIS NEURON ACTIVATES IN OUR BRAIN TO TELL US THAT WE ARE HUNGRY.

I SAID ALL THAT TO SAY THAT AS MUCH AS WE ARE REGULATED TO LISTEN TO OUR HUMANITY AND THE FUNCTION OF OUR BRAIN. WE ARE SUBJECT TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN US TO DENY OUR FLESH. WE BECOME SO LED BY OUR FLESH THAT WE DO NOT OBEY THE SPIRIT OF GOD IN US. (ROMANS 8:1-4)

FASTING FOOD IS A SPIRITUAL WEAPON BECAUSE OF OUR FLESH. WHEN WE RESIST OUR FLESH, WE IDENTIFY WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD AND HIS POWER THAT WORKS IN YOU. THAT IS WHY FASTING WITH PRAYER IS A PROVEN POWER GIVEN TO US WHEN ENCOUNTERING CERTAIN DEMONS THAT DON'T RESPOND TO CARNAL OR FLESHLY REPRESENTATION. ONLY THROUGH THE

DEADNESS OF OUR HUMANITY DO WE ENCOUNTER THE SPIRITUAL REALM TO BATTLE DEMONIC SPIRITS.

IT'S A DIFFERENT LEVEL OF CONCECRATION WE MUST BE ENGAGED WITH THAT ALLOWS US TO EFFECTIVE IN DIFFERENT REALMS OF THE SPIRIT.

WHAT IS REALLY REVEALING IN OUR LIVES IS THAT WHEN WE ARE UNWILLING TO BATTLE IN CERTAIN SPIRITUAL PLACES. YOU DON'T GET THE OPPORTUNITY TO BATTLE AGAINST THE PRINCIPALITY OR POWER OPPOSING US IN EFFECTIVENESS IN THE WARFARE. IN OTHER WORDS, WHEN ARE HUNGRY. WE GET SICK AND TIRED OF BEING SICK AND TIRED.

OUR HUNGER TO PRESS TOWARD THE MARK OF THE HIGH CALL IN CHRIST JESUS MUST BE EVIDENT IN OUR LIVES.

(PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14)

WHEN WE ARE HUNGRY, WE ARE RELENTLESS IN OUR PURSUIT. WHEN A LION IS ON THE HUNT FOR FOOD. THEY WILL RISK THEIR LIFE TO CONQUER THEIR PREY. GOD SAYS THE ENEMY GOES AFTER US LIKE THAT, AS A ROARING LION.

NEHEMIAH 9:5