

40 Days for 40 Years

5.27.07

Introduction:

- We began with a video reflecting our desire for the outpouring of the Spirit...but that happens in response to a group of people repenting of their sins, seeking God fervently & reprioritizing their life with the desires of God.
- 7.7.07 – National Solemn Assembly rededicating ourselves & this nation back to God with the desired outcome of God pouring out His Spirit upon America.
- Video of The Call

My personal history to see revival & transformation

- James Robison crusades
- Glenview Baptist Church & Jack Taylor revival
- Tarleton State University
- Holiness preachers: Leonard Ravenhill, Keith Green, Vance Havner, Sam Cathey
- Toronto, Pensacola & Transformation videos
- My desire to see the power of God demonstrated
- I want to see God radically change our culture!

Convergence (Kairos moment both this month & transitional season)

- 400th anniversary of Jamestown
- 40th anniversary of reunification of Jerusalem since 70 AD
- 40th anniversary of the summer of love
- Global Day of Prayer today
- 40 Days of Prayer & Fasting begins tomorrow
- May is a month of favor
- Prepare Quickly
- God is giving us an invitation to partner with him in the transformation of our culture.

Look at the culture

- Church is immersed in the pollution of the culture.
- We look at our little world & think all is well, but talk with the teachers, law enforcement, judges, counselors & pastors and they'll tell you differently.
- Christians depending upon the political structures to change the culture.
 - Political systems do play a role, but they can't change hearts. They can enact righteous standards, but not impact change of values.
 - Understand, the voice for equality for minorities began in the church and the political system followed.
- There is no political fix! No ranting of a talk show host will stop the downward spiral. Even the great kings of Israel couldn't fix the problems of the culture until they changed the values of the people. They had to deal with the spiritual underpinnings that were the platforms for immorality.
- Righteous leaders exalt a nation, but if you don't deal with the foundational sin structures which become fortifications of demonic strongholds then the spiritual & moral decline will not end.
 - Israel's kings - when they didn't deal with the root issues of their nation it would eventually sabotage them or return. They had to deal with idolatry.
 - The same is true for America. We must deal with idolatry. The idols of abortion, sexual immorality, relativism, greed, materialism, personal freedom with no responsibility, must be torn to the ground.

God's Answer: Fast & Pray

- We want Joel 2.28-31, but it's found within the context of people repenting, getting right with God & seeking Him wholeheartedly! It's not, "God, do that Joel 2 thing", but rather, "God, forgive us, we repent, we turn to you in wholeheartedness...heal our land."
- The context of Joel. Joel 1.2, 4, 17, 19

- Why did this happen? The people had grown complacent...their religious observances were formal not relational...tolerated sin...worshipped false gods.
- Appl - Look at America & it is spiritually & morally ravaged - tolerance for sin (call evil good & good evil), brokenness, violence, idolatry, everything good & decent is mocked
- What did God say through the prophet Joel that the people were to do? Elect a new King...call FEMA...no, fast & pray!
- Joel 2.12-17: We are to call a solemn assembly, seek God in fasting & prayer, turn from our wickedness.
- Joel 2.18, 28-32: This is God's promise.

Lou Engle writes:

There are moments in history when a door for massive change opens, and great revolutions for good or evil spring up in the vacuum created by these openings. In these divine moments, key men, women and even entire generations risk everything to become the hinge of history, the pivotal point that determines which way the door will swing.

The rebellious generation of the '60s seized its moment, and history crashed into the deep abyss of drug addiction, sexual immorality, hatred for authority and a rejection of the law of God. In 1967, there was a culminating and defining moment in that rebellion, when 100,000 young people, flocked to San Francisco to experience the hippie movement. Once there, these young adults experimented with LSD, pot, casual sex and Eastern mysticism in what

became known as the “Summer of Love.”

When these newly recruited ‘Flower Children’ returned home at the end of the summer, they brought with them new styles and ideas, flooding the cities of the US and Europe with a message that opposed authority and scorned morals. This counterculture rebellion was fueled by music and art, which rapidly shifted global culture.

For 40 years, we have been falling headlong into a black moral abyss. We are reaping the waves of destruction in every sector of our post Christian society. Can America survive another 40 years? We are declaring “NO! A thousand times NO!” Unless a massive spiritual shift occurs at this moment, our children will live under an antichrist system.

But God has a prescription for such a massive shift and it is revealed in the power of the great transitional 40-day fast. God, in His sovereign control over the parade of history, delivered the Israelites out of Egypt. Longing to release a moral code that would give foundations for righteousness for every age. God summoned Moses to a 40-day fast on Mount Sinai. Through this fast, all of history changed and the law of God was delivered from Heaven to Earth. Therefore, if America is going to return to God, it must recover that law again as its foundation for truth.

Elijah, at the height of Jezebel's cultic dominion over Israel sought God for 40 days, broke the spell of Jezebel off of his own life and received a mandate to anoint the next generation. Elijah's action unleashed a movement that toppled Jezebel's regime of hell, which perpetrated the destruction of family, the killing of innocent children, the silencing of the voice of God's people and the widespread culture of sexual immorality. The fruit of this fast culminated in the utter destruction of Baal worship in Israel.

Also in the fullness of time, the Glorious Gospel era was born when Jesus fasted 40 days and those who sat in darkness saw a great light. Clearly the 40-day fast is Heaven's great transitional prescription, moving nations from failure to fulfillment of promise. Is it any surprise that when Jesus was to enter into His great sacrifice Elijah and Moses appear with Him on the Mount of Transfiguration. All three were together as the 40-day fasters. They presided over the great transitions of history.

When the Israelites were poised to move into the Promise Land, spies were sent out for 40 days. When they returned carrying an evil report, a whole generation was infected with unbelief and they turned their back on the Promise Land. God's sentence on that generation was "And your sons shall be wanderers in the wilderness for forty years and bear the brunt of your infidelity until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. According to the number of

the days in which you spied out the land forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you shall know my rejection.” (Numbers 14:33–34) It was 40 years of judgment for 40 days failure.

Forty years are up! Could the Church of America in a 40-day fast deliver a nation out of a 40-year curse? We have scriptural precedent to believe for such a turning! Therefore, we are trumpeting a call to 40 days of fasting like Moses, Elijah, and Jesus. We must bear the iniquity in 40 days of fasting and intercession for the past 40 years of divorcing God in America, embracing a culture of sexual immorality, hedonism, materialism, abortion and the rejection of Christ in public places.

But we are also calling for 40 days of fasting and prayer for the greatest outbreak of Kingdom power, in signs and wonders, and the spiritual awakening in America that will collide with this present darkness and topple its cultural dominion over our people. Thousands went on 40-day fasts in 1946 and in 1947, the great healing revivals broke out. In 1948, the Latter Rain outpourings began, Bill Bright and Billy Graham’s ministries were born, and Israel became a nation. Could it be that the 40-day fast preceded this explosion of power by the Spirit? After Jesus’ 40-day fast, the scripture says He returned in the power of the Spirit. Yes the promise of Joel 2 is that after the fast, “I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh...”

Forty years ago, in 1967, the Jesus Movement broke out. A

youth revival started on the streets swept across the country, exploding on college campuses and coffee houses. People were being saved everywhere. Now 40 years later, we are crying out for God to do it again, way beyond the Jesus Movement!

In 1967, in a war and obviously by the supernatural hand of God, Jerusalem was taken and once again brought under the control of the state of Israel. This was a monumental signpost in the shifting of eras. The dispensation of the times of the Gentiles as prophesied by Jesus in Luke 21 was now beginning to shift to the times when Jerusalem will become the last days focus for God's activity in the Earth. For 40 days, we are joining Israel in a 40-day fast crying out to God that Israel would see their Messiah and they would begin to receive their greatest spiritual awakening since the days of the Apostles.

Brothers and sisters, moments like these come only once in a lifetime. To miss such a moment could mean missing the purpose of God for a generation. The generation that refused to cross over the Jordan did not know that they had only one day to make the decision, and missing that day meant 40 years in the desert.

Even now we are receiving reports that other countries are calling 40-day fasts. Could we be in a Global 40-day

season of fasting (like Jesus), to see a global outbreak of light when great darkness is covering the Earth? *Beginning the evening of May 28, we are calling for 40 days of fasting and prayer culminating on 7-7-07, the perfection of time. In a massive, national gathering of fasting, intercession, repentance and worship, we seek to declare our desire to remarry the Lord. We want to cross over into the promise land of national revival. We want to break this 40-year curse. May thousands seek God in water, juice and Daniel fasts from May 28 through 7-7-07, The Call in Nashville.*

What would happen in America if for 40 days we sealed the electronic cultural sewer that flows nightly into our living rooms and instead, spent our strength seeking the Lord? What if tens of thousands of fathers and mothers across our nation fasted for 40 days repenting and cleansing themselves of inward toleration of sexual immorality, pornography, addiction to food, entertainment and materialism? What if they prayed daily for their spiritual and physical children to see them converted to Christ and freed from rebellion, from addictions, depression and suicide? What if the young generation fasted for 40 days to be cleansed from lust, media addiction and rebellion toward their parents, believing that a double portion of the Holy Spirit would come upon their lives?

The parade of history has brought us into a profound generational landmark, and a great vacuum has opened again. If the church does not seize this moment, Muslims will! Antichrist rage will! Sexual perversion will! Anarchy

will! Now is the time for key men and women, even an entire generation to risk everything to become the hinge of history, the pivotal point which determines which way the door will swing in America and in the nations of the Earth. It's 40 Days or 40 Years—let's seize the day!

Specific Steps

- 40 Days of Prayer & Fasting, May 28 – July 6
 - Jump in & don't worry about having it all together.
- Fasting guidelines on the Information Table in the atrium
- National Solemn Assembly, 7.7.07
- Asking God specifically for:
 - His forgiveness & His grace for genuine repentance
 - Idolatry: those things that compete with or supersede our commitment to God.
 - Matt.13.41 – no mixture
 - Transformation of our culture (40th anniversary of Jesus movement)
 - Salvation of natural Israel (40th anniversary of Jerusalem)
- Wednesday Prayer meeting in the month of June, 7 PM
- Potentially have the church open during the evening
- Visit these websites
 - www.fastandpray.com
 - www.thecall.com
 - www.louengle.com