



COLLEGE OF THE SCRIPTURES

Greater Christ Temple APOSTOLIC CHURCH

2940 S. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 04/03/2019 6:00 PM

Fundamental Christian Living pt. 4

“The Power of Consecration”

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GreaterCTC.org



Fundamental Christian Living

Part 4

The Power of Consecration

Consecrate: (Hebrew “Qadash”) To be, to cause to be, make, pronounce, or observe as holy (set apart / not for common usage).

Leviticus 8:10-12

¹⁰ Also Moses took the anointing oil, and anointed the tabernacle and all that *was* in it, and consecrated them. ¹¹ He sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times, anointed the altar and all its utensils, and the laver and its base, to consecrate them. ¹² And he poured some of the anointing oil on Aaron's head and anointed him, to consecrate him.²

- In this same manner God called for all priests to be consecrated for service to God, every priest must be consecrated!!! This is significant considering that we, the church, are now also the priesthood of God:

1 Peter 2:9

• But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

- God calls for his people to actively consecrate themselves

Leviticus 20:6-7

6 'And the person who turns to mediums and familiar spirits, to prostitute himself with them, I will set My face against that person and cut him off from his people. **7** Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I *am* the LORD your God.

- The Scriptures definitely illustrate that there is power from God associated with the consecration of oneself.

Matthew 17:14-21

14 And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, **15** "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic* and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. **16** So I brought him to

Your disciples, but they could not cure him." **17** Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." **18** And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. **19** Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" **20** So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. **21** However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

- Prayer and fasting are the two most normative ways a person may consecrate (set themselves apart unto God) himself.
- Jesus Himself did not even begin his ministry until he first went away into the wilderness (separated Himself) and consecrated Himself to the Lord by fasting and prayer

Matthew 4:1-4

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. **2** And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. **3** Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." **4** But He answered and said, "*It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'*"

- Also observe, when Jesus had consecrate himself to the Lord forty days and forty nights, then the tempter came to him, but Jesus, though His flesh was made weak through fasting, His spirit was strong through prayer and **internal dedication** to God, and so he soundly defeated every temptation of the enemy by simply trusting in, and quoting, the written word.
- Make no mistake about it, when you consecrate yourself to the Lord by fasting and prayer, you are humbling yourself, making yourself low in acknowledgement that God is higher (mightier, wiser, of greater value) than you. Thusly, to humble oneself through consecration is worship.

- When a person humbles himself before the Lord, he exalts God in His inward man, and though he may appear to men to be lowered, the scripture says that God Himself will exalt (lift up, make higher, mightier, wiser, more valuable) such a person:

James 4:10

10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

- If we, as a people, desire to experience God in a mightier way, we must prepare ourselves for the presence of God lest his very glory be the death of us.

Joshua 3:5

5 And Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you."

- The power of God is too much for the carnal man to withstand, we must become more spiritual, we must draw closer to God with our inner man before we can stand to be blessed by his weighty presence (glory). If we attempt to get closer to him (by way of consecration) we can be assured that He will bring Himself closer to us

James 4:7-8

7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded.

- James was also making it quite clear that part of drawing closer to God was to separate oneself from sin and wickedness, "Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded."
- Whereas consecrating yourself to God through fasting and prayer is a mighty way to secure your victory over the schemes and devices of the devil, if we are in sin, if we harbor sin or **make allowance** for it, we negate our righteousness and cancel our own victory. A person who is in sin cannot take authority over the author of sin.

Joshua 7:13

13 Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves¹⁰ for

tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "*There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you.*"

- It is pointless to fast and pray while willfully remaining in sin.

Isaiah 59:1-2

1 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. **2** But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden *His* face from you, So that He will not hear.

- When done correctly, with repentance, and with a true heart of devotion to God, consecration actually makes a person holy to God.

Numbers 6:1-8

1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, **2** "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When either a man or woman consecrates an offering to take the vow of a Nazirite, to separate himself to the LORD, **3** he shall separate himself from wine and *similar* drink; he shall drink neither vinegar made from wine nor vinegar made from *similar* drink; neither shall he drink any grape juice, nor eat fresh grapes or raisins. **4** All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, from seed to skin. **5** 'All the days of the vow of his separation no razor shall come upon his head; until the days are fulfilled for which he separated himself to the LORD, **he shall be holy.** *Then* he shall let¹² the

locks of the hair of his head grow. **6** All the days that he separates himself to the LORD he shall not go near a dead body. **7** He shall not make himself unclean even for his father or his mother, for his brother or his sister, when they die, because his separation to God *is* on his head. **8 All the days of his separation he shall be holy to the LORD.**

- The person who is consecrated to God has a special connection to God, you actually open your spirit to hear from his Spirit, and receive supernatural strength from God. Let us look to Sampson, how did he get his strength?

Judges 13:1-5

1 Again the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD delivered them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. **2** Now there was a certain man from Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name *was* Manoah; and his wife *was* barren and had no children. **3** And the Angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. **4** Now therefore, please be careful not to drink wine or *similar* drink, and not to eat anything unclean. **5** For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for **the child shall be a Nazirite to God** from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

Judges 13:24-25

24 So the woman bore a son and called his name Samson; and the child grew, and the LORD blessed him. **25** And the Spirit of the LORD began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.

- Even in the womb, the consecrated child Samson had the Spirit of the LORD moving upon him.
- If you need a word from the LORD, Moses has set the example, he was on the mountain of the LORD, consecrated through fasting and prayer for 40 days and 40 nights when he was blessed to receive the Ten Commandments, carved in stone by the very finger of God!

After Moses came down from the mountain and saw the debauchery

of the children of Israel, how they had already returned to worshiping idols, he cast down the tablets of stone and broke them. But God was gracious enough to give the Ten Commandments a second time, again Moses was consecrated to the Lord 40 days and 40 nights with fasting and prayer to deliver the Word of God:

Exodus 34:27-30

27 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel." **28** So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments. **29** Now it was so,¹⁶

when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony *were* in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him. **30** So when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.

- Let it be noted, that Jesus, who is our example, regularly consecrated himself.

"So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed."

(Luke 5:16)

- Not only did Jesus set the example, but He also gave instruction that we should, from time to time, separate ourselves to devote our entire attention to Him in prayer.
- 6 “But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.”
(Matthew 6:6)

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APRIL 2-6

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6:00 PM



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