6 DAY FASTING DEVOTIONAL

Day 1

And this shall be a statute forever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls, and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth among you: For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord. Leviticus 16:29-30

Do you sense the holiness of this day? A day when all focus is upon God and the atonement for sin. On this special day, Israel's priest made atonement for the sins of her people. Yes, the Old Testament is a shadow of the coming priesthood of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection bring the atonement for sin. Praise the Lord for "...thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

Day 2

And he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments. Exodus 34:28

And I fell down before the Lord, as at the first, forty days and forty nights; I did neither eat bread, nor drink water, because of all Your sins which ye sinned in doing wickedly in the sight of The Lord, to provoke him to anger. Deuteronomy 9:18

Moses, a great leader of Israel, is found fasting 40 days and 40 night's which proceeds The Ten Commandments. Later in this passage we find Moses fasting again for Israel. Sin once again had made its mark, and God was grieved. God was angry with His people Israel. Sin is a violation of God's will. Sin is the missing of the mark. Moses fasted, prayed, and interceded for this nation Israel and this changed the heart of God!

Day 3

Then all the children of Israel, and all the people, went up, and came unto the house of God, and wept, and sat there before the Lord, and fasted that day until even, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the Lord. Judges 20:26

It says here that ALL the children of Israel and ALL the people went up and came before the house of the God. Unity is powerful. It was a unified speech of tears, fasting, and sacrificial giving. Oh that ALL people might have a heart of contrition and of a humble spirit.

Day 4

And as he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the Lord, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat. 1 Samuel 1:7 She was barren - she was without child - she was in great sorrow. She was provoked to tears and to fasting. Only God could understand - only God cared - and only God could answer. Indeed, God answered Hannah's prayer with the birth of Samuel who became a great prophet for Israel.

Day 5

And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the Lord, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the Lord. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh. 1 Samuel 7:6

The Ark of the Covenant had not been with Israel for 20 years. 20 years she had been without this treasure which was a symbol of God's presence. Israel once again turned their hearts towards God, and they put away their strange gods. This obedience subdued the Philistines and they came no more against Israel all the days of Samuel (1 Samuel 7:13).

Day 6

And they took their bones and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days. 1 Samuel 31:13

How do you handle death? How can you respond to loss? In this particular time, they fasted and prayed for seven days.