

Joel 2:12-13



Heightened Fear & Uncertainty



Learn From This Epidemic

If you do not believe that the epidemic is allowed by God, you have not learnt from the epidemic.

If you only rely on outside protection instead of seeking comfort from God, you have not learnt from this epidemic.

If you refuse to understand about death, you have not learnt from the epidemic.

If you only want the epidemic to stop so that you can continue to live a normal life without seeking to understand God and His will for you, you have not learnt from the epidemic.

If you spend too much time reading information about the epidemic, but not contemplate on God, you will not have learnt from the epidemic.

If you treat your sin as casually as before, you will not have learnt anything about this epidemic.

Attention!



VISION SUNDAY 2020

Season of accelerated
growth

Window of growth

Need for consecration

REVIVAL

CONSECRATION

Consecration is our part, sanctification is God's part. Consecration is when we have deliberately determined to be interested in that which only God is interested in.

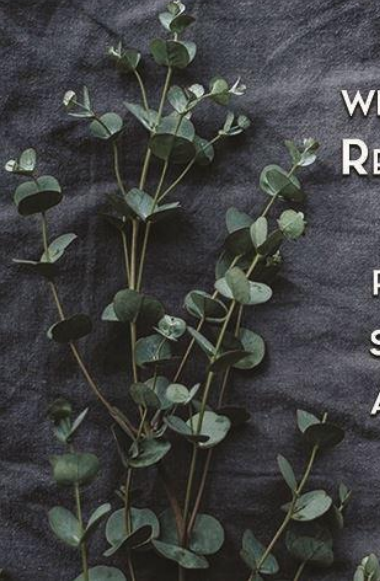
(Oswald Chambers, "My Utmost For His Highest")

Pastor Alvin's Message

Therefore thus will I do unto
thee, O Israel: and because I
will do this unto thee, prepare to
meet thy God, O Israel.

Amos 4:12

Repent



“EVEN NOW,” DECLARES THE LORD,
“RETURN TO ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
WITH FASTING AND WEeping AND MOURNING.”
REND YOUR HEART AND NOT YOUR GARMENTS.
RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD,
FOR HE IS GRACIOUS AND COMPASSIONATE,
SLOW TO ANGER AND ABOUNDING IN LOVE,
AND HE RELENTS FROM SENDING CALAMITY.

JOEL 2:12-13

Hearts Turned Away



UNFAITHFULNESS, TO GOD

¹ The word of the Lord that came to Joel son of Pethuel.

(Joel)

Call To Repentance



¹¹ The day of the Lord is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?

(Joel 2)

An Invasion of Locusts

⁴ What the locust swarm has left the great locusts have eaten; what the great locusts have left the young locusts have eaten; what the young locusts have left other locusts have eaten.

⁷ It has laid waste my vines and ruined my fig-trees. It has stripped off their bark and thrown it away, leaving their branches white. *(Joel 1)*



A Devastating Drought

¹² The vine is dried up and the fig-tree is withered; the pomegranate, the palm and the apple tree – all the trees of the field – are dried up. Surely the people's joy is withered away.

(Joel 1)



To The Priests & Elders



THE CALL TO REPENTANCE

¹⁹ To you, LORD, I call, for fire has devoured the pastures in the wilderness and flames have burned up all the trees of the field.
²⁰ Even the wild animals pant for you; the streams of water have dried up and fire has devoured the pastures in the wilderness.

(Joel 1)



¹ Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand – ² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was in ancient times nor ever will be in ages to come. *(Joel 2)*



³ Before them fire devours, behind them a flame blazes. Before them the land is like the garden of Eden, behind them, a desert waste nothing escapes them. ⁷ They charge like warriors; they scale walls like soldiers. They all march in line, not swerving from their course. ⁸ They do not jostle each other; each marches straight ahead. They plunge through defences without breaking ranks. ⁹ They rush upon the city; they run along the wall. They climb into the houses; like thieves they enter through the windows.

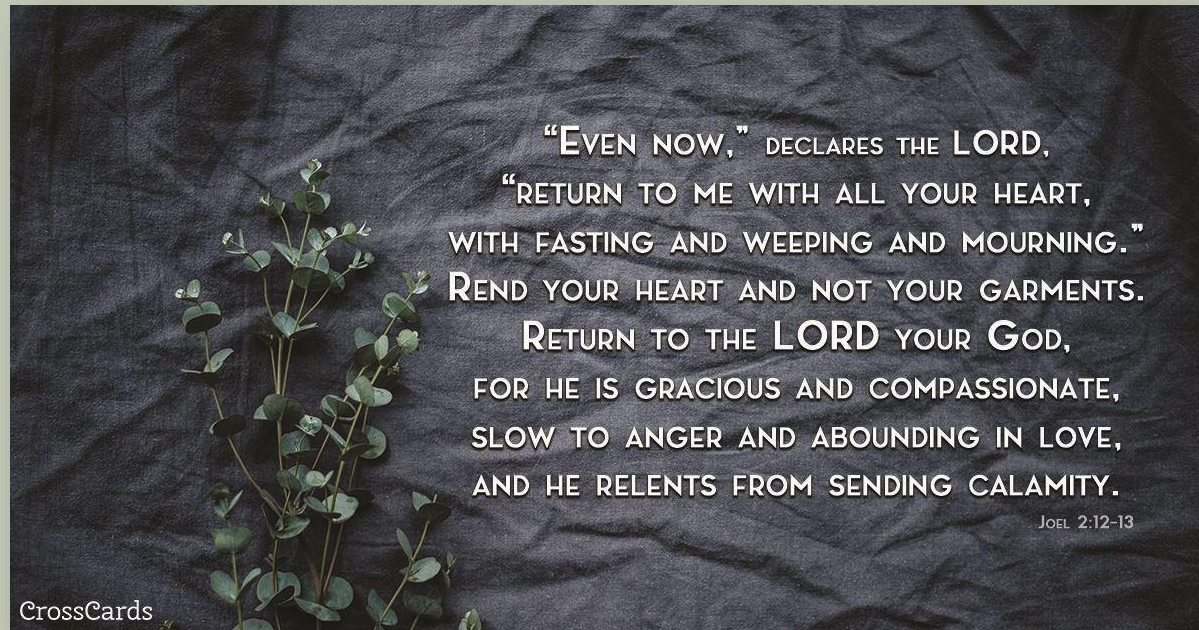
(Joel 2)

The Army of The Lord



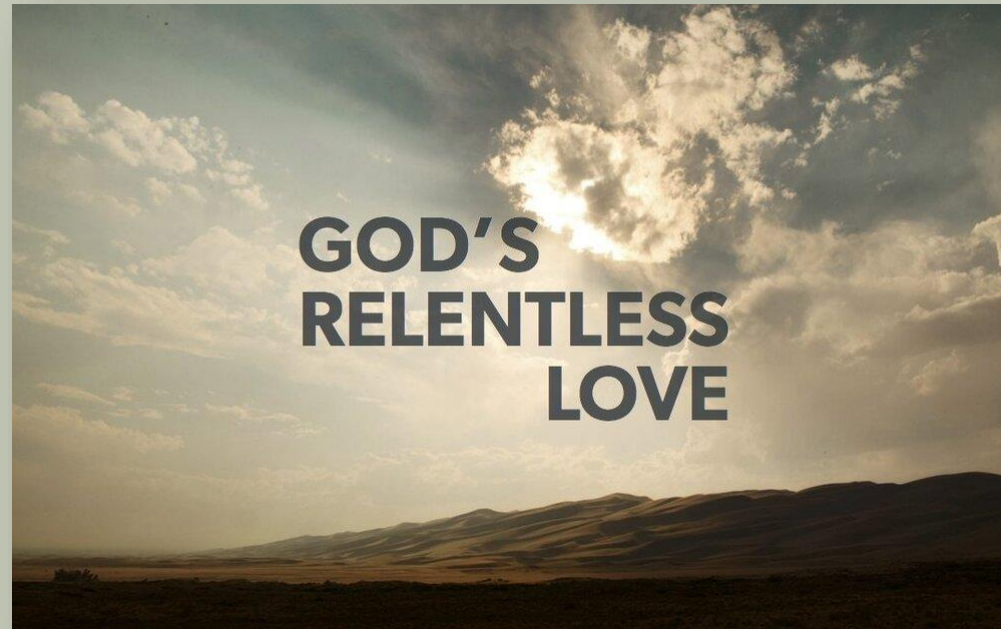
¹¹ The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty is the army that obeys his command. The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it? (Joel 2)

The Lord's Good Intention



¹⁴ Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing – grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.

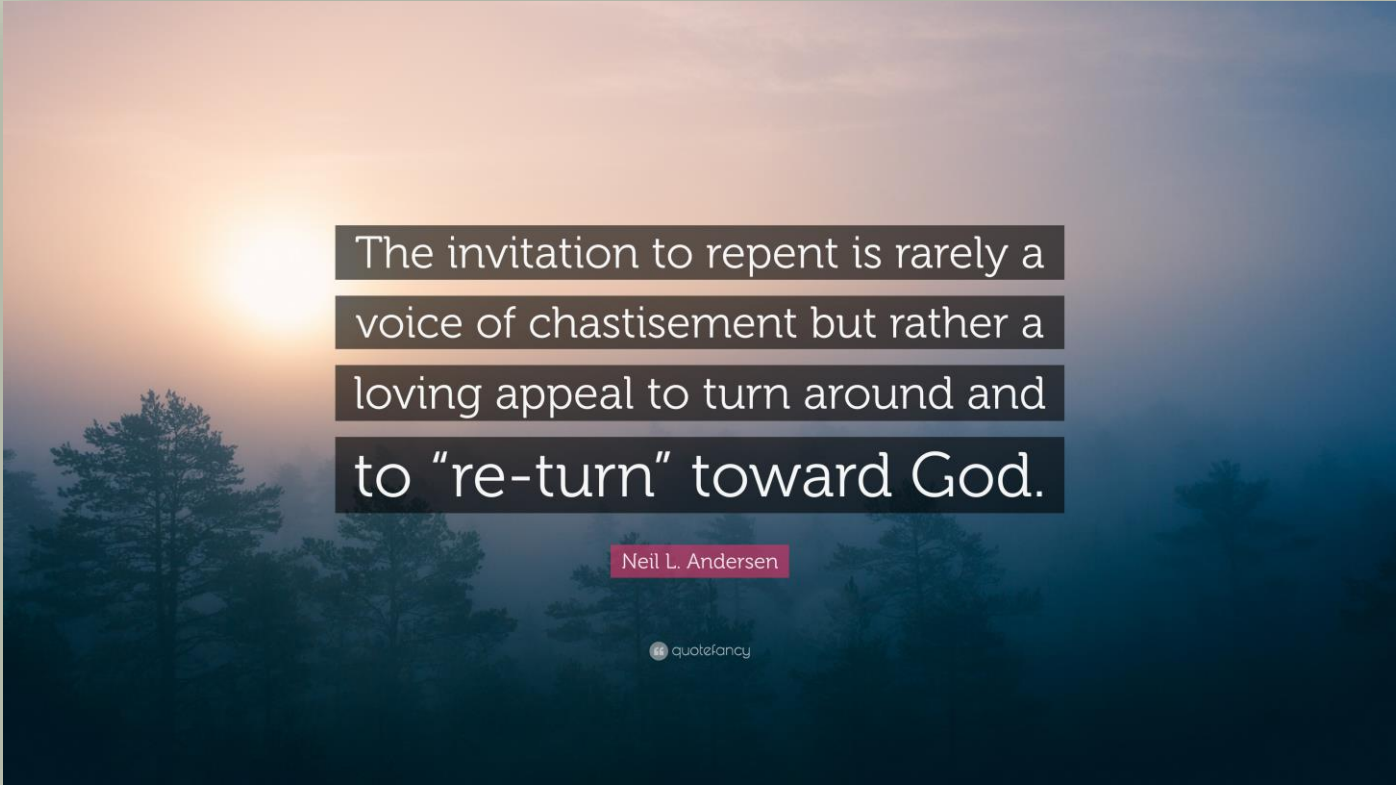
(Joel 2)



²³ Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the Sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live? *(Ezekiel 18)*


¹¹ Say to them, "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?" *(Ezekiel 33)*

The Lord's Loving Appeal



The invitation to repent is rarely a voice of chastisement but rather a loving appeal to turn around and to “re-turn” toward God.

Neil L. Andersen

 quote fancy



¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. ¹⁶ Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷ Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say, ‘Spare your people, LORD. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, “Where is their God?”’

(Joel 2)

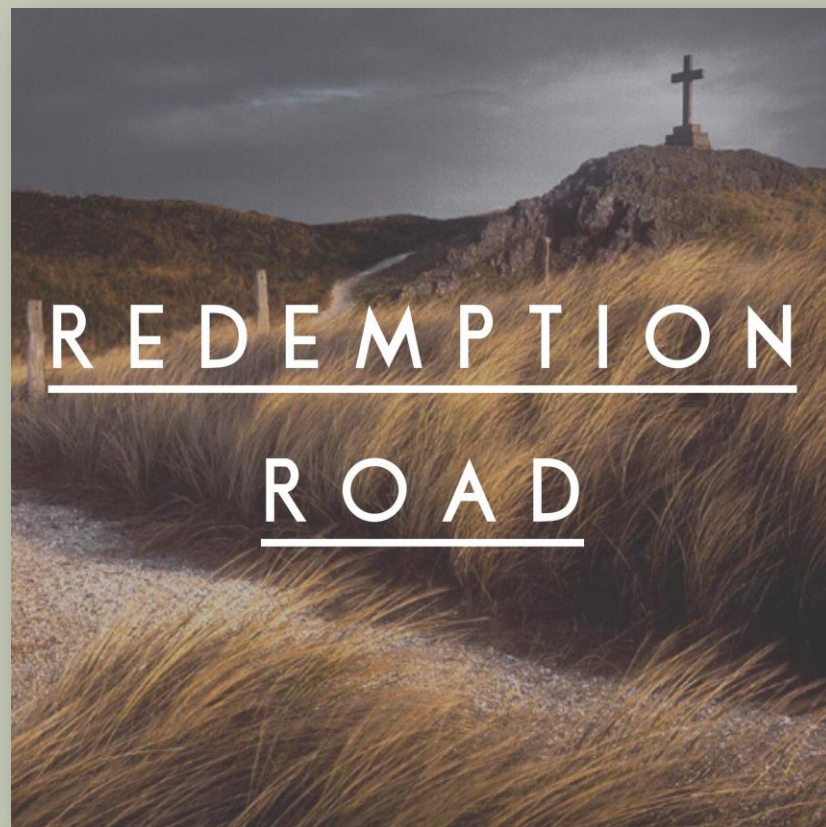
True Repentance

¹² 'Even now,' declares the LORD, 'return to me with all your heart

(Joel 2)

⁴ Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

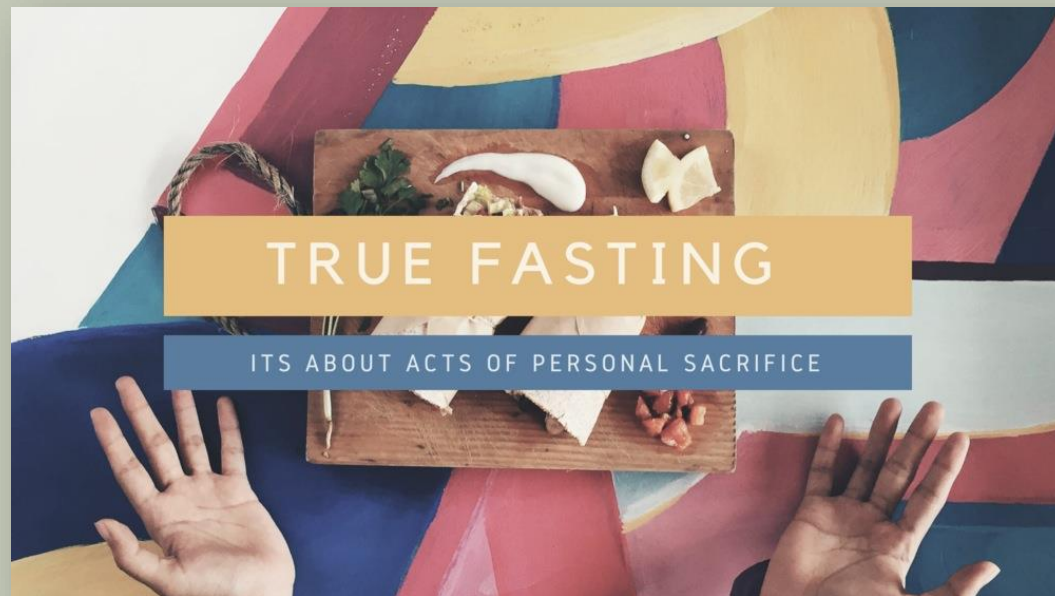
(Deuteronomy 6)



First Love



Fasting, Weeping, Mourning



... 'return to me with all your heart, with **fasting** and **weeping** and **mourning**.'

A Matter of The Heart



¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant a willing spirit to sustain me.

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

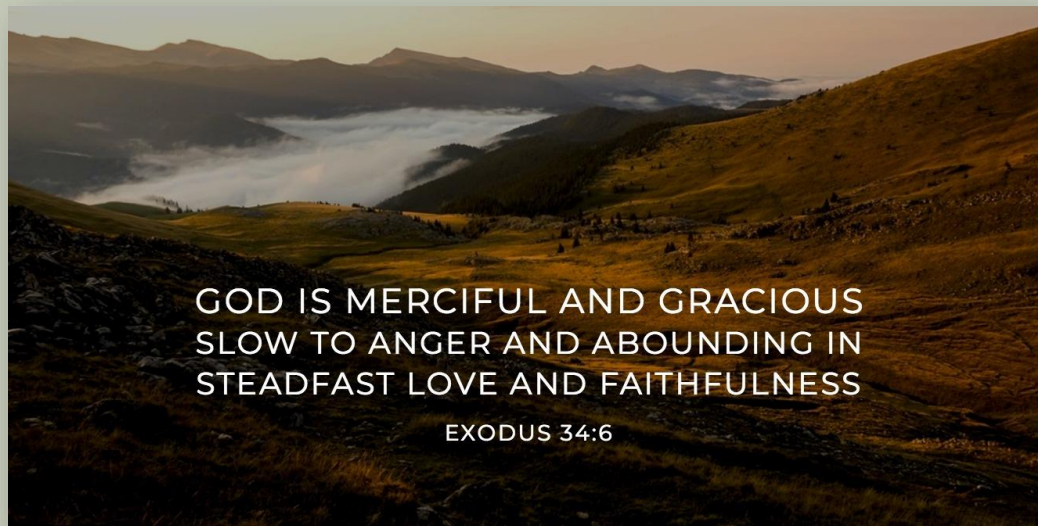
(Psalm 51)

Return To The Lord

Who knows? He may turn and have
pity and leave behind a
blessing-- grain offerings and
drink offerings for the LORD your
God.

Joel 2:14

The Lord's Promise To Relent



¹⁸ Then the LORD was jealous for his land and took pity on his people. ¹⁹ The LORD replied to them: 'I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations. ²⁰ 'I will drive the northern horde far from you, pushing it into a parched and barren land; its eastern ranks will drown in the Dead Sea and its western ranks in the Mediterranean Sea. And its stench will go up; its smell will rise.'

(Joel 2)

The Lord's Promise To Restore

²⁴ The threshing-floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil. ²⁵ 'I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten – the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm – my great army that I sent among you. ²⁶ You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. (Joel 2)



Consecration

A quote card with a background image of a sunset over a mountain range. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and dark brown. The mountains are silhouetted against the bright sky. The water in the foreground is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky.

**With complete consecration
comes perfect peace.**

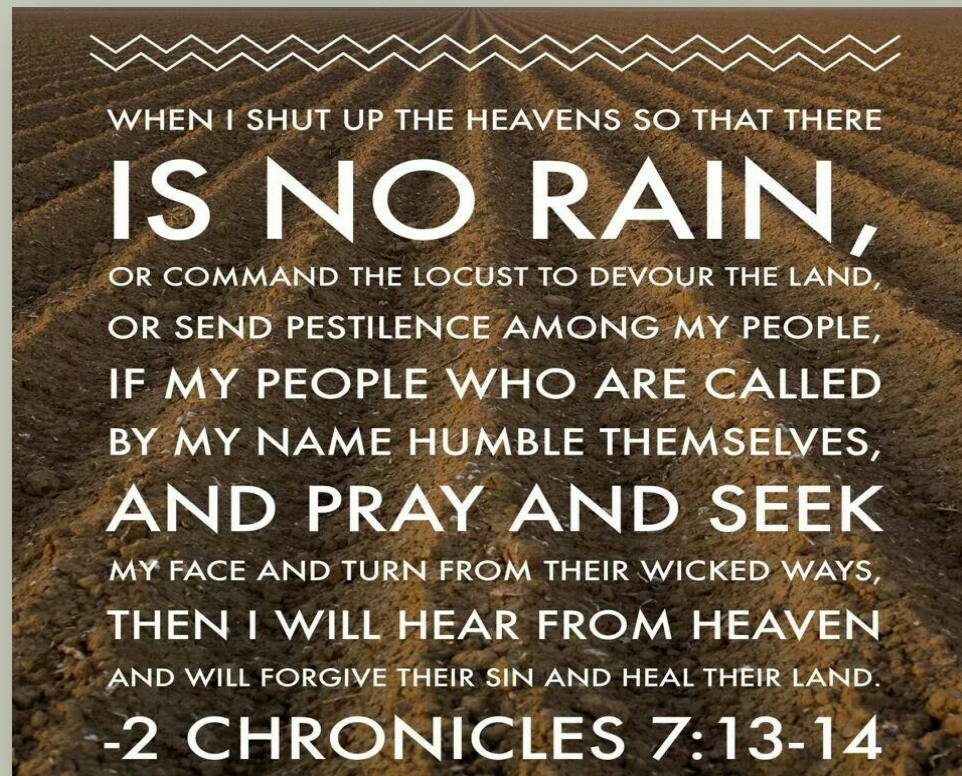
Watchman Nee

 quote fancy


Repentance



Repentance



Revival



Revival is when God's people return
to God and God returns to them,
and everyone sees the difference.

Henry Blackaby