

Powerful Prayer
(June 7, 2020 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)

Today I am wearing black to honor George Floyd,
Italia Kelly...
David McAtee...
David Dorn...
Anybody else who has been killed in these riots...

I am also wearing black for Breonna Taylor...

I am wearing black for them, and I am wearing black because there is so much wrong with this country...

I was glad to see that Aalayah Eastmond ...protester from the Parkland, FL shooting...is not forgetting about what happened at Parkland...

The church should not forget about the tragedies that are going on around this nation...

The 62 million babies and counting killed by abortion...
The school shootings...

Today I am here to provide a very important part of the solution...
I am here to preach about Powerful Prayer...

Scripture 1: Genesis 32:22-32 (24-30)

²² And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. ²³ He took them, sent them ^[f]over the brook, and sent over what he had. ²⁴ Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the ^[g]breaking of day. ²⁵ Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He ^[h]touch^d the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. ²⁶ And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks."

But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"

²⁷ So He said to him, "What *is* your name?"

He said, "Jacob."

²⁸ And He said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but ^[i]Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

²⁹ Then Jacob asked, saying, “Tell *me* Your name, I pray.”

And He said, “Why *is* it *that* you ask about My name?” And He blessed him there.

³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place ^[i]Peniel: “For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.” ³¹ Just as he crossed over ^[k]Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip. ³² Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank, which *is* on the hip socket, because He ^[i]touched the socket of Jacob’s hip in the muscle that shrank.

We can’t let go of our prayers until the Lord Jesus blesses us...

As an aside, this passage includes a theophany, which is an appearance of God the Son, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, before He was born as Jesus Christ in Bethlehem...

I have taught this before, but just like in the regular school classroom, it can be good to review an important lesson that has been taught...

Scripture 2: Hebrews 13:8

⁸ Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Scripture 3: Exodus 33:7-23 (9-11, 18-23)

⁷ Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting. And it came to pass *that* everyone who sought the LORD went out to the tabernacle of meeting which *was* outside the camp. ⁸ So it was, whenever Moses went out to the tabernacle, *that* all the people rose, and each man stood *at* his tent door and watched Moses until he had gone into the tabernacle. ⁹ And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood *at* the door of the tabernacle, and *the LORD* talked with Moses. ¹⁰ All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing *at* the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man *in* his tent door. ¹¹ So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to

his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.

The Promise of God's Presence

¹² Then Moses said to the LORD, "See, You say to me, 'Bring up this people.' But You have not let me know whom You will send with me. Yet You have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found grace in My sight.' ¹³ Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation *is* Your people."

¹⁴ And He said, "My Presence will go *with you*, and I will give you rest."

¹⁵ Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go *with us*, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who *are* upon the face of the earth."

¹⁷ So the LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name."

¹⁸ And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."

¹⁹ Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." ²⁰ But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." ²¹ And the LORD said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. ²² So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. ²³ Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen."

Thus, we see in this passage that Moses was talking to the Lord Jesus because He was talking to God face to face...

Of course the Lord Jesus did not have the title or name Jesus Christ, or in the Greek Iesus Christos, or in Hebrew Yeshua the Messiah...

However, He was the same person, God the Son, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity...

The place where Moses saw God the Father was where the Father hid Moses in the cleft in the rock...

However, Moses did not speak to the Father face to face; Moses only saw the Father's back...

Understanding theophanies is important because it helps us to understand Scripture better...

It helps us, for example, to see the Holy Trinity in both the Old and the New Testaments, which deepens our understanding of God and His Word...

In any case, we are in a situation in which we cannot afford to let God go until He blesses us...

I am going to call on all of my prayer warriors to stand up in faith to pray for the nation...

As I prepare this message, I feel led in the Spirit to ask for a fast...

But a fast that God leads each of you to undertake...

It could be a single item of food...

My fast currently is no sweets or chips or popcorn or pretzels or other salty snack foods except on Sundays or at special events, like birthdays...

Make it something you can keep up for the long-term...

If you are addicted to coffee, don't choose coffee unless the Lord Jesus really impresses on your heart to give up coffee because this is a long-term fast...

This is fast that will last until there is an end...

To looting, to COVID-19, to abortion, to school shootings, to gun violence...

I want you to write a Comment on the video for today that you are participating in the fast...

I want us to commit to fast and pray until things get better and stay better because

God cannot bless America the way He wants to unless America blesses God...

Scripture 4: Psalm 33:12-22 (12, 16-22)

The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect.

¹¹ The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
The plans of His heart to all generations.

¹² Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD,
The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

¹³ The LORD looks from heaven;
He sees all the sons of men.
¹⁴ From the place of His dwelling He looks
On all the inhabitants of the earth;
¹⁵ He fashions their hearts individually;
He ^[c]considers all their works.
¹⁶ No king *is* saved by the multitude of an army;
A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.
¹⁷ A horse *is* a ^[d]vain hope for safety;
Neither shall it deliver *any* by its great strength.
¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD *is* on those who fear Him,
On those who hope in His mercy,
¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death,
And to keep them alive in famine.
²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD;
He *is* our help and our shield.
²¹ For our heart shall rejoice in Him,
Because we have trusted in His holy name.
²² Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us,
Just as we hope in You.

We have to recognize that the devil wants to destroy the U.S., but we can turn things around if we persevere in prayer...

Scripture 5: Matthew 12:24-26

²⁴ Now when the Pharisees heard *it* they said, “This *fellow* does not cast out demons except by ^[e]Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.”

²⁵ But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?”

Scripture 6: Jonah 3:4-10

⁴ And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day’s walk. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

The People of Nineveh Believe

⁵ So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. ⁶ Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered *himself* with sackcloth and sat in ashes. ⁷ And he caused *it* to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his **[b]**nobles, saying,

Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water. ⁸ But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹ Who can tell *if* God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

¹⁰ Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

Scripture 7: James 5:16-18

¹⁶ **[i]**Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, **[k]**fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸ And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

With regards to fasting, some sort of fasting is important at this time...

Scripture 8: 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 **[c]**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 **[d]**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 ^[e]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 ^[f]However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

Scripture 9: Joel 2:11-20 (11-19)

The LORD gives voice before His army,
For His camp is very great;
For strong *is the One* who executes His word.
For the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible;
Who can endure it?

A Call to Repentance

¹² “Now, therefore,” says the LORD,
“Turn to Me with all your heart,
With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.”

¹³ So rend your heart, and not your garments;
Return to the LORD your God,
For He *is* gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and of great kindness;
And He relents from doing harm.

¹⁴ Who knows *if* He will turn and relent,
And leave a blessing behind Him—
A grain offering and a drink offering
For the LORD your God?

¹⁵ Blow the ^[f]trumpet in Zion,
Consecrate a fast,
Call a sacred assembly;

¹⁶ Gather the people,
Sanctify the congregation,
Assemble the elders,
Gather the children and nursing babes;
Let the bridegroom go out from his chamber,
And the bride from her dressing room.

¹⁷ Let the priests, who minister to the LORD,
Weep between the porch and the altar;
Let them say, “Spare Your people, O LORD,

And do not give Your heritage to reproach,
That the nations should [a]rule over them.
Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?' "

The Land Refreshed

¹⁸ Then the LORD will be zealous for His land,
And pity His people.
¹⁹ The LORD will answer and say to His people,
"Behold, I will send you grain and new wine and oil,
And you will be satisfied by them;
I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.
²⁰ "But I will remove far from you the northern *army*,
And will drive him away into a barren and desolate land,
With his face toward the eastern sea
And his back toward the western sea;
His stench will come up,
And his foul odor will rise,
Because he has done [h]monstrous things."

There are different kinds of fasting...

Scripture 10: Isaiah 58 (3-7, 10, 13-14)

"Cry aloud, [a]spare not;
Lift up your voice like a trumpet;
Tell My people their transgression,
And the house of Jacob their sins.
² Yet they seek Me daily,
And delight to know My ways,
As a nation that did righteousness,
And did not forsake the ordinance of their God.
They ask of Me the ordinances of justice;
They take delight in approaching God.
³ 'Why have we fasted,' *they say*, 'and You have not seen?
Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?'
"In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure,
And [b]exploit all your laborers.
⁴ Indeed you fast for strife and debate,

And to strike with the fist of wickedness.

You will not fast as *you do* this day,

To make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is it a fast that I have chosen,

A day for a man to afflict his soul?

Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush,

And to spread out sackcloth and ashes?

Would you call this a fast,

And an acceptable day to the LORD?

⁶ *“Is this not the fast that I have chosen:*

To loose the bonds of wickedness,

To undo the [c]heavy burdens,

To let the oppressed go free,

And that you break every yoke?

⁷ *Is it* not to share your bread with the hungry,

And that you bring to your house the poor who are [d]cast out;

When you see the naked, that you cover him,

And not hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the morning,

Your healing shall spring forth speedily,

And your righteousness shall go before you;

The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

You shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I *am*.’

“If you take away the yoke from your midst,

The [e]pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

¹⁰ *If* you extend your soul to the hungry

And satisfy the afflicted soul,

Then your light shall dawn in the darkness,

And your [f]darkness shall *be* as the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually,

And satisfy your soul in drought,

And strengthen your bones;

You shall be like a watered garden,

And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

¹² Those from among you

Shall build the old waste places;

You shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach,
The Restorer of [a]Streets to Dwell In.

¹³ “If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath,
From doing your pleasure on My holy day,
And call the Sabbath a delight,
The holy *day* of the LORD honorable,
And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways,
Nor finding your own pleasure,
Nor speaking *your own* words,
¹⁴ Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD;
And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth,
And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father.
The mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Scripture 11: Daniel 1:3-17 (8, 11-13, 15-16)

³ Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king’s descendants and some of the nobles, ⁴ young men in whom *there was* no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who *had* ability to serve in the king’s palace, and whom they might teach the language and [b]literature of the Chaldeans. ⁵ And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king’s delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of *that time* they might serve before the king. ⁶ Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. ⁷ To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel *the name* Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.

⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. ⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and [c]goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. ¹⁰ And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, “I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who *are* your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king.”

¹¹ So Daniel said to [d]the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, ¹² “Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to

drink. ¹³ Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants." ¹⁴ So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days.

¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. ¹⁶ Thus ^[e]the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

¹⁷ As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

So please send post your Comment if you are going to participate in this fast for our nation...