

Week 26

Joel 2 Lifestyle



*The need to produce
trembling in the “Day of the
LORD” message*





Jeremiah 14:17

*...“Let my eyes flow with
tears night and day,
and let them
not cease...”*



In Week 25, we shared with you what God is doing in our times, raising up forerunners to preach the “Day of the LORD” message. Today we will be sharing about the need for the “Day of the LORD” message to produce trembling.

The purpose of the “Day of the LORD” preaching is to create a sense of alarm in God’s people and cause our hearts to tremble. To alarm is to ‘agitate’ people by the preaching of the Word so that hearts would be awakened to the seriousness of the times and the urgency of the hour.

To tremble is to cause hearts to be engaged with God in the fear of the Lord.



The trembling that grips the heart and is evoked by the “Day of the LORD” preaching emerges for a few reasons. People tremble out of compassionate anguish over the coming suffering and the reality of coming persecution.

Their hearts will be gripped by the unprecedented amount of human agony looming on the horizon. Jeremiah experienced this kind of trembling as his heart was gripped by unutterable, compassionate anguish over the pain that people would have to endure (Jer. 8:18 – 9:2; 14:17 – 18; 23:9 – 10).

Compassionate anguish is an appropriate response to what is coming. Those who preach on the judgment of God must do so with a tenderized heart.

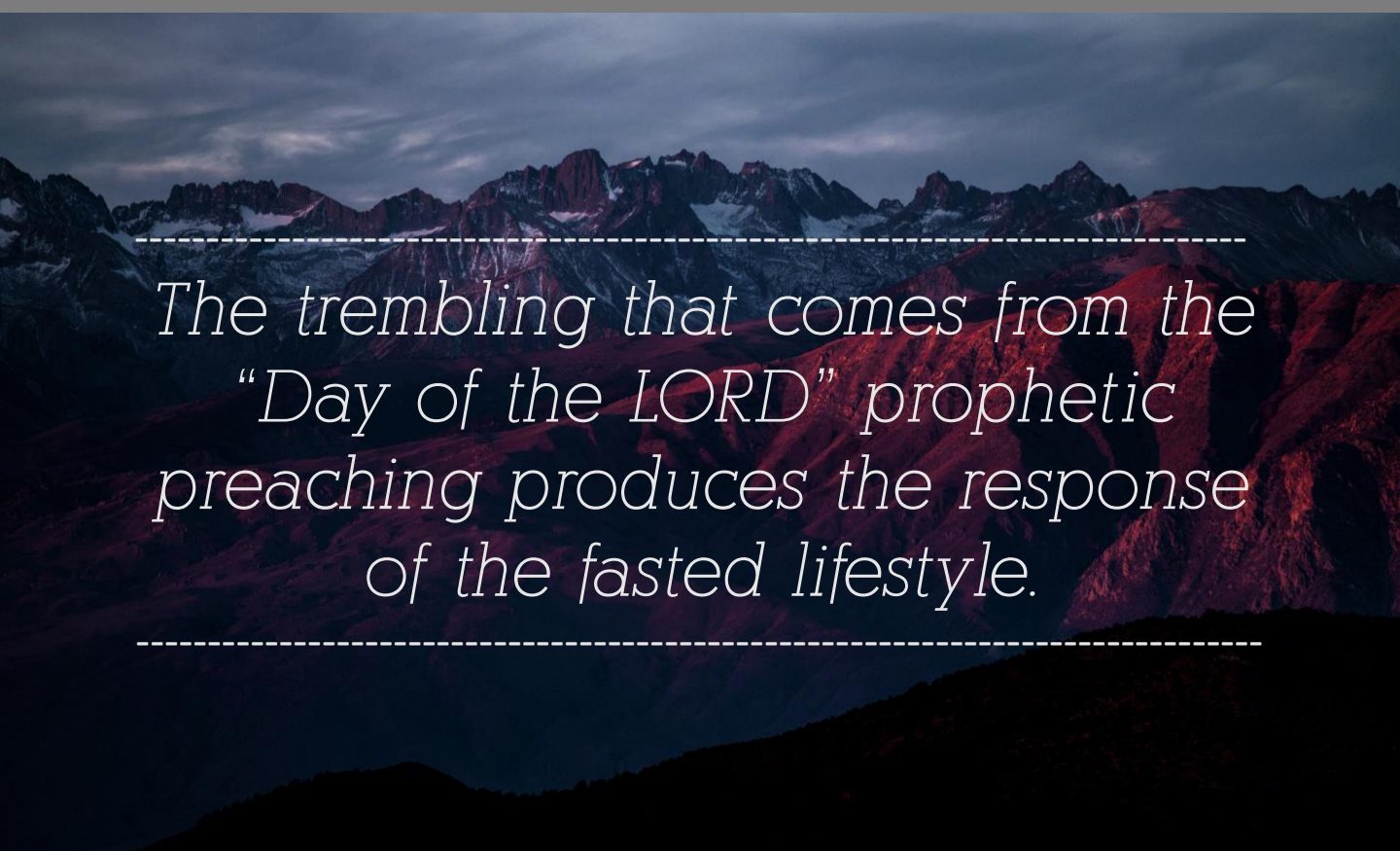
Preaching about impending judgments should never be done without tears.

Secondly, people also tremble from the “Day of the LORD” preaching because they become ***awestruck by the majesty of God’s power.***



When we see with the eyes of our hearts the coming revival and the coming judgment, supernatural conviction arises. We tremble at the severity of the times. We will be alarmed by the majesty of God's manifest power in revival and in judgment.

Throughout Church history, God has raised up men like Jonathan Edwards and Charles Finney, who preached with such unction and power that the very majesty and conviction of God struck people's hearts like piercing arrows! Both believers and unbelievers trembled under the power of the Word of God, astounded by His glorious majesty. People would shudder as they watched the power of God manifest upon others and themselves.



*The trembling that comes from the
“Day of the LORD” prophetic
preaching produces the response
of the fasted lifestyle.*

Without a heart that is awakened to the seriousness of the times and urgency of the hour, as well as a trembling spirit, we will never enter into the grace of wholeheartedness that Joel describes as required by God in times of crisis (Joel 2:12 – 17).

It is difficult to motivate people to contend in prayer without prophetic preaching that creates urgency.

If we are not trembling in our own spirits with a sense of alarm, we will be casual and minimize the grace of fasting and prayer.





*May we hear the
trumpet blast the
Lord is sounding.*

*May we connect
with the heart of
the Lord and the
seriousness of
what He is saying,
so that we may
tremble.*

*With a trembling
heart, the Church
will indeed arise
to watch and pray,
and to burn and
shine in the Day
of the LORD!*



Readings and Prayers for the week

Readings for Week 26

- Take some time to read through and ponder over the entire Book of Joel. Imagine if crises of such magnitude hit our shores and our people. Does it cause a trembling in our hearts? What should we do if we don't?

Prayers for Week 26

- Pray Col 1:9-10 that as many hear God's heart concerning the times we are living in, we may understand the seriousness and magnitude of what is coming and we will tremble, respond and live a life that is aligned to what the Lord requires.
- Pray Joel 2:1 for voices to speak with such boldness, authority and conviction that those who hear will tremble and respond.