

pray, where people know you're praying, is it true that you sometimes do these things unto God in order that the people around you may understand what your piety really is, whereas the rest of the time you live for yourself? You or me. I'm not talking to you individually. I'm talking to the group of us, en masse. Is it true that we sometimes perform these externals, so that people will have a wonderful idea of how Godly we are, whereas the rest of the time in the common everyday ways of life, we keep those things to ourselves. It's a lesson of heart and soul searching and God is saying here, it isn't the fast that counts. If you want to fast every day of the month, wonderful, but you wouldn't want to commit suicide that way. But if you want to fast, wonderful. It isn't the fast that counts. It isn't what you do and what you don't do that counts, it's whether you do those things unto Me. And then in the rest of Chapter 7 and Chapter 8 he makes this plain. In verse 8 and 9 and 10, And the word of the Lord to Zechariah saying, thus speaketh the Lord of hosts. This is what he said years past to the fathers, from verse 7. Thus saith the Lord of hosts, execute true judgment, shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother, oppress not the widow, and the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor. These are citations from the book of Exodus, the giving of the Sinaiatic law. In order words, do what the Scripture says. Let none of you imagine evil against his brother. But they refused to hearken. Who refused to hearken? The fathers refused to hearken. And then over in Chapter 8, just continuing the same theme at a rapid pace, in verse 10, before these days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there peace to him that went our or came in, because of the affliction: for I set every man