



PRAYER AND FASTING ?????

2 Chronicles 7/14

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land"

THE PRESIDENT

President Emmerson Mnangagwa has declared a "Presidential National Day of Prayer and Fasting to seek the Lord's mercy, wisdom, help and healing to overcome the Covid-19 pandemic."

But we ask

- Did he consult with church leaders before declaring such a "Presidential" event ?
- Was he aware that some churches are already engaged in 90 days of prayer and fasting ?

And what about the other dire threats from which Christians are praying to be delivered

- the hunger pandemic that may be claiming more lives than Covid-19 ?
- the critical shortage of water that threatens the nation ?
- the endemic corruption that denies justice to the poor ?
- the brutal violence used by the State against peaceful protesters ?

In calling the nation to prayer will the President humble himself and, with his government, turn from the wicked ways that have caused untold suffering ?



THE PROPHET

Long ago the prophets of Israel rejected the empty gestures of those national leaders who thought the evils threatening the people could be overcome by meaningless rituals. Speaking for a holy and righteous God, Isaiah demanded

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke ? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter ...

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear ..." (Isaiah 58/6-7)

For such a radical change of heart our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe are now praying and fasting.

Will you then join them and us in praying

- that the nation's leaders and all its people will humble themselves before the Lord and confess the sins that have caused such appalling suffering
- that there will be genuine repentance and a turning away from corrupt rule
- that a clear prophetic word will be heard again in the land
- that the glory of the Lord will be seen in the healing of Zimbabwe ?

Thank you for your compassion and your persevering prayers.

