

INFORMATION DOCUMENT ON FASTING

Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Modein

2 Mac 13:10–12 records a three day fast performed by followers of Judas Maccabeus in Judea. It was proclaimed by Judas Maccabeus. The reason was seeking victory in battle. As a result, the followers of Judas were not destroyed.

Event

- Battle at Beth-Zechariah

Related

- Antiochus V Eupator
- Jews
- Jews in Judea (Hellenistic Period)
- Modein

Shealtiel Fasts a First Time for Understanding

2 Esd 5:19–20 records a seven day fast performed by Shealtiel in Babylon. It was proclaimed by Uriel. The reason was seeking understanding. As a result, Shealtiel received understanding.

Shealtiel Fasts a Second Time for Understanding

2 Esd 6:35 records a seven day fast performed by Shealtiel in Babylon. The reason was seeking understanding. As a result, Shealtiel received understanding.

Related

- Uriel (Archangel)

Jesus Fasts and Overcomes Temptation

Mt 4:1–11, Mk 1:12–13, and Lk 4:1–4 record a 40 day fast performed by Jesus in the wilderness. The reason was temptation. As a result, Jesus overcame the temptation.

Event

- Satan Tempts Jesus in the Desert

Related

- Holy Spirit
- Satan
- An Angel
- Bread
- Rock
- Scripture

The Pharisees and Disciples of John Fast as a Discipline

Mk 2:18–22 records a fast performed by the Pharisees and disciples of John at the Sea of Galilee. The reason was habit. As a result, the Pharisees and disciples of John displayed a commitment to regular fasting.

Event

- Jesus Defends His Disciples for Not Fasting

Related

- Disciples
- Jesus
- John the Baptist
- A Bridegroom

Anna Fasts in Anticipation of the Messiah

Lk 2:36–37 records a fast performed by Anna in Jerusalem. The reasons were the Messiah and waiting. As a result, Anna worshipped God.

Event

- Mary and Joseph Present Jesus at the Temple

Related

- Asherites
- Widows
- Herod's Temple

Paul Fasts After Being Struck on the Damascus Road

Ac 9:8–12 records a three day fast performed by Paul in Damascus. The reason was conversion. As a result, Ananias healed Paul.

Event

- Ananias Heals Paul
- Paul Converts

Related

- Straight

Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Ac 13:1–5 records a fast performed by Barnabas, Lucius, Manaen, Niger, and Paul in Antioch. The reasons were commissioning and seeking guidance. As a result, Paul and Barnabas were sent to Seleucia.

Event

- Barnabas and Paul Are Sent on Their First Missionary Journey

Related

- Holy Spirit
- John Mark
- Synagogue
- Cyprus
- Salamis

Paul and Barnabas Fast Before Appointing Elders

Ac 14:22–23 records a fast performed by Barnabas and Paul in Antioch. The reason was ordination. As a result, Paul and Barnabas appointed elders.

Event

- Paul and Barnabas Appoint Elders in Lystra, Iconium and Antioch

Related

- Church at Iconium
- Church at Lystra
- Disciples at Lydda
- Elders
- A Church
- A Disciple

A Group of Jews Fast to Attain Paul's Death

Ac 23:12–21 records a fast performed by Jews in Judea in Caesarea. It was proclaimed by Jews in Judea. The reasons were killing and plotting. Subsequently, the Jews were unsuccessful in killing Paul.

Event

- Jerusalem Jews Plan to Kill Paul

Related

- Claudius Lysias
- Elders Questioning Jesus' Authority
- Sanhedrin
- Soldiers in Jerusalem
- A Chief Priest

Fasts by Faster

Ahab (King): Ahab Fasts for Repentance

Anna: Anna Fasts in Anticipation of the Messiah

Barnabas: Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit, Paul and Barnabas Fast Before Appointing Elders

Daniel (Prophet): Daniel Fasts in Repentance for His People

Darius (Mede): Darius Fasts for Daniel's Safety

David: David Fasts to Mourn Saul and Jonathan, David Fasts to Mourn Abner, David Fasts for the Life of His Child

Disciple of John: The Pharisees and Disciples of John Fast as a Discipline

Elijah (Prophet): Elijah Fasts to Commune With God at Mount Horeb

Ezra (Scribe): Ezra Fasts for Repentance for Intermarriage, Ezra and the Kingdom of Judah Fast for Repentance for Intermarriage

Followers (Judas Maccabeus): Judas' Followers Fast for Victory Against Seron, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Mizpah, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Modein

Hannah: Hannah Fasts to Conceive a Child

Israelites: The Israelites Fast at Bethel for Victory in Battle, The Israelites Fast at Mizpah for Repentance, Saul Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle, The Israelites in Judea Fast for Deliverance

Jabesh-Gileadites (United Kingdom): The Jabesh Gileadites Fast to Mourn Saul and Jonathan

Jesus: Jesus Fasts and Overcomes Temptation

Jews in Judea: A Group of Jews Fast to Attain Paul's Death

Jezreelites: Jezebel Proclaims a Fast as a Ruse to Kill Naboth

Judith (Daughter of Merari): Judith Fasts as Habit During Her Widowhood

Kingdom of Judah: Jehosaphat Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle, Ezra and the Kingdom of Judah Fast for Repentance for Intermarriage, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts for Repentance, Esther Proclaims a Fast for Favor With the King,

Esther Proclaims a Fast for Remembrance of Deliverance, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts and Hears Jeremiah's Message

Lucius (of Cyrene): Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Manaen: Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Men Supporting David: David Fasts to Mourn Saul and Jonathan

Moses: Moses Fasts to Receive the Ten Commandments

Nehemiah (Governor): Nehemiah Fasts in Repentance for His People

Niger: Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Ninevites: The Ninevites Fast in Repentance for Sin

Paul: Paul Fasts After Being Struck on the Damascus Road, Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit, Paul and Barnabas Fast Before Appointing Elders

Pharisees: The Pharisees and Disciples of John Fast as a Discipline

Psalmist (Davidic): A Psalmist Fasts for Deliverance from Enemies

Returning Exiles: Ezra Proclaims a Fast at Ahava for Repentance

Shealtiel: Shealtiel Fasts a First Time for Understanding, Shealtiel Fasts a Second Time for Understanding

Tobias (Son of Tobit): Tobias Fasts to Attain Sarah as a Wife

Fasts by Location

Ahava: Ezra Proclaims a Fast at Ahava for Repentance

Antioch (of Pisidia): Paul and Barnabas Fast Before Appointing Elders

Antioch (of Syria): Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Babylon: Shealtiel Fasts a First Time for Understanding, Shealtiel Fasts a Second Time for Understanding

Bethel (North of Jerusalem): The Israelites Fast at Bethel for Victory in Battle

Bethulia: Judith Fasts as Habit During Her Widowhood

Caesarea (Caesarea Maritima): A Group of Jews Fast to Attain Paul's Death

Damascus: Paul Fasts After Being Struck on the Damascus Road

Dry Land: Jesus Fasts and Overcomes Temptation

Ecbatana: Tobias Fasts to Attain Sarah as a Wife

Hebron (City): David Fasts to Mourn Abner

Hill Country Of Ephraim: Saul Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle

Jabesh-Gilead: The Jabesh Gileadites Fast to Mourn Saul and Jonathan

Jerusalem: David Fasts for the Life of His Child, Ezra Fasts for Repentance for Intermarriage, Ezra and the Kingdom of Judah Fast for Repentance for Intermarriage, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts for Repentance, Anna Fasts in Anticipation of the Messiah

Jezreel (of Issachar): Jezebel Proclaims a Fast as a Ruse to Kill Naboth, Ahab Fasts for Repentance

Judah (Kingdom): Jehosaphat Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts and Hears Jeremiah's Message

Judea: The Israelites in Judea Fast for Deliverance, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Modein

Mizpah (Village): The Israelites Fast at Mizpah for Repentance, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Mizpah

Mount Sinai: Moses Fasts to Receive the Ten Commandments, Elijah Fasts to Commune With God at Mount Horeb

Nineveh: The Ninevites Fast in Repentance for Sin

Persia: Darius Fasts for Daniel's Safety, Daniel Fasts in Repentance for His People

Sea of Galilee: The Pharisees and Disciples of John Fast as a Discipline

Shiloh: Hannah Fasts to Conceive a Child

Susa: Nehemiah Fasts in Repentance for His People, Esther Proclaims a Fast for Favor With the King

Upper Beth-Horon: Judas' Followers Fast for Victory Against Seron

Ziklag: David Fasts to Mourn Saul and Jonathan

Fasts by Reason

Barren: Hannah Fasts to Conceive a Child

Battle: The Israelites Fast at Bethel for Victory in Battle, Saul Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle, Jehosaphat Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory Against Seron, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Mizpah, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Modein

Commission: Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Conversion: Paul Fasts After Being Struck on the Damascus Road

Covenant: Moses Fasts to Receive the Ten Commandments

Deceit: Jezebel Proclaims a Fast as a Ruse to Kill Naboth

Deliverance: Esther Proclaims a Fast for Favor With the King, A Psalmist Fasts for Deliverance from Enemies, Darius Fasts for Daniel's Safety, The Israelites in Judea Fast for Deliverance

Grief: The Jabesh Gileadites Fast to Mourn Saul and Jonathan, David Fasts to Mourn Saul and Jonathan, David Fasts to Mourn Abner, David Fasts for the Life of His Child

Guidance: Church Teachers Fast for Guidance from the Holy Spirit

Habit: Judith Fasts as Habit During Her Widowhood, The Pharisees and Disciples of John Fast as a Discipline

Help: Nehemiah Fasts in Repentance for His People

Journeys: Elijah Fasts to Commune With God at Mount Horeb

Kill: A Group of Jews Fast to Attain Paul's Death

Marriage: Tobias Fasts to Attain Sarah as a Wife

Messiah: Anna Fasts in Anticipation of the Messiah

Ordination: Paul and Barnabas Fast Before Appointing Elders

Persecution: Esther Proclaims a Fast for Favor With the King, A Psalmist Fasts for Deliverance from Enemies

Plot: A Group of Jews Fast to Attain Paul's Death

Remembrance: Esther Proclaims a Fast for Remembrance of Deliverance

Repentance: The Israelites Fast at Mizpah for Repentance, Ahab Fasts for Repentance, Ezra Proclaims a Fast at Ahava for Repentance, Ezra Fasts for Repentance for Intermarriage, Ezra and the Kingdom of Judah Fast for Repentance for Intermarriage, Nehemiah Fasts in Repentance for His People, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts for Repentance, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts and Hears Jeremiah's Message, Daniel Fasts in Repentance for His People, The Ninevites Fast in Repentance for Sin

Sin: The Israelites Fast at Mizpah for Repentance, Ahab Fasts for Repentance, Ezra Proclaims a Fast at Ahava for Repentance, Ezra Fasts for Repentance for Intermarriage, Ezra and the Kingdom of Judah Fast for Repentance for Intermarriage, Nehemiah Fasts in Repentance for His People, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts for Repentance, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts and Hears Jeremiah's Message, Daniel Fasts in Repentance for His People, The Ninevites Fast in Repentance for Sin

Temptation: Jesus Fasts and Overcomes Temptation

Ten Commandments: Moses Fasts to Receive the Ten Commandments

Understanding: Shealtiel Fasts a First Time for Understanding, Shealtiel Fasts a Second Time for Understanding

Vengeance: Saul Proclaims a Fast for Victory in Battle

Wait: Anna Fasts in Anticipation of the Messiah

Fasts by Duration

40 Days: Moses Fasts to Receive the Ten Commandments, Elijah Fasts to Commune With God at Mount Horeb, Jesus Fasts and Overcomes Temptation

Days of widowhood: Judith Fasts as Habit During Her Widowhood

Multiple Days: Nehemiah Fasts in Repentance for His People, The Israelites in Judea Fast for Deliverance

One Day: The Israelites Fast at Bethel for Victory in Battle, The Israelites Fast at Mizpah for Repentance, David Fasts to Mourn Saul and Jonathan, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts for Repentance, The Kingdom of Judah Fasts and Hears Jeremiah's Message, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory Against Seron, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Mizpah

One Night: Darius Fasts for Daniel's Safety

Seven Days: The Jabesh Gileadites Fast to Mourn Saul and Jonathan, David Fasts for the Life of His Child, Shealtiel Fasts a First Time for Understanding, Shealtiel Fasts a Second Time for Understanding

Three Days: Ezra and the Kingdom of Judah Fast for Repentance for Intermarriage, Esther Proclaims a Fast for Favor With the King, Judas' Followers Fast for Victory at Modein, Paul Fasts After Being Struck on the Damascus Road

Two Days: Esther Proclaims a Fast for Remembrance of Deliverance¹

¹ Jeremy Thompson, [All the Fasts in the Bible](#), Faithlife Biblical and Theological Lists (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2021), 2 Mac 13:10–Ac 23:21.