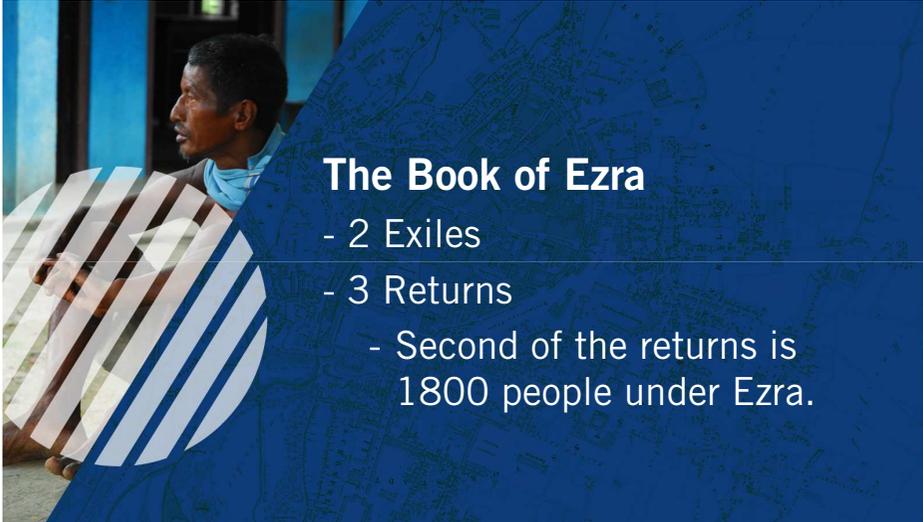


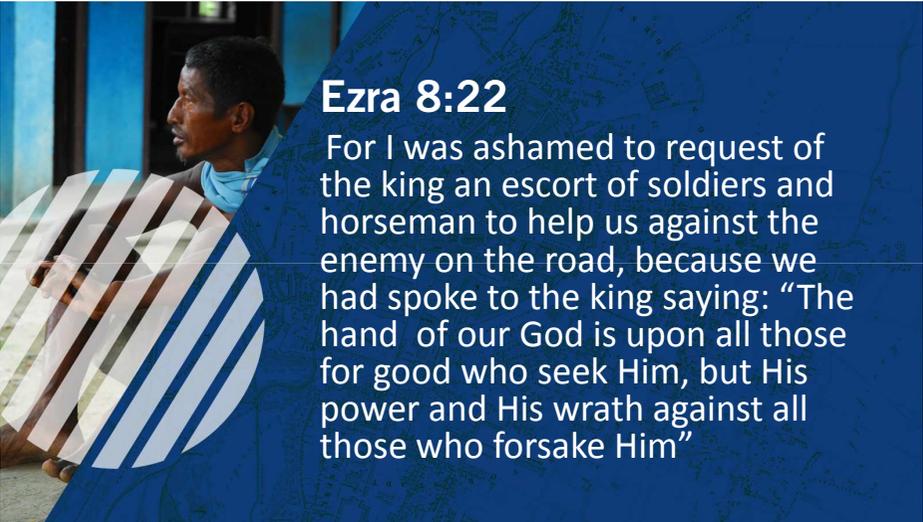
## Nibbling at the table of the world

PAUL BOTHA 2 AUGUST 2015



## The Book of Ezra

- 2 Exiles
- 3 Returns
- Second of the returns is 1800 people under Ezra.



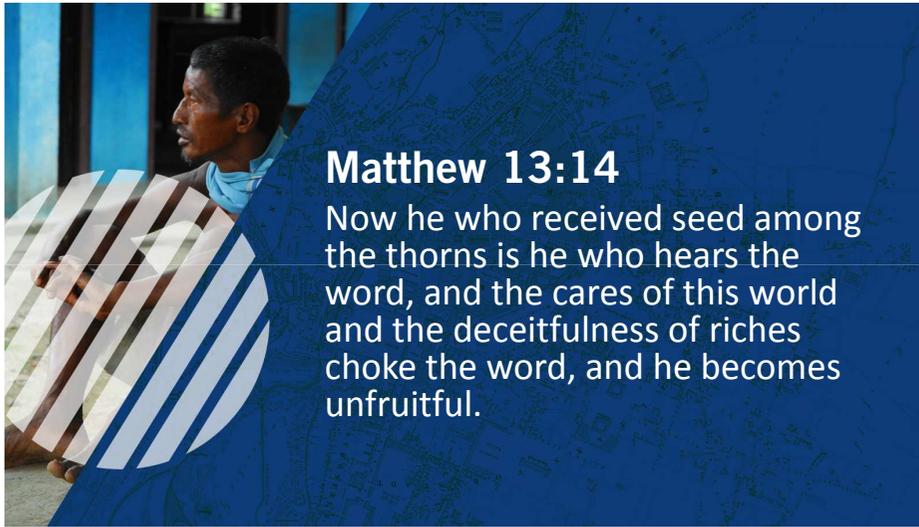
## Ezra 8:22

For I was ashamed to request of the king an escort of soldiers and horseman to help us against the enemy on the road, because we had spoke to the king saying: "The hand of our God is upon all those for good who seek Him, but His power and His wrath against all those who forsake Him"



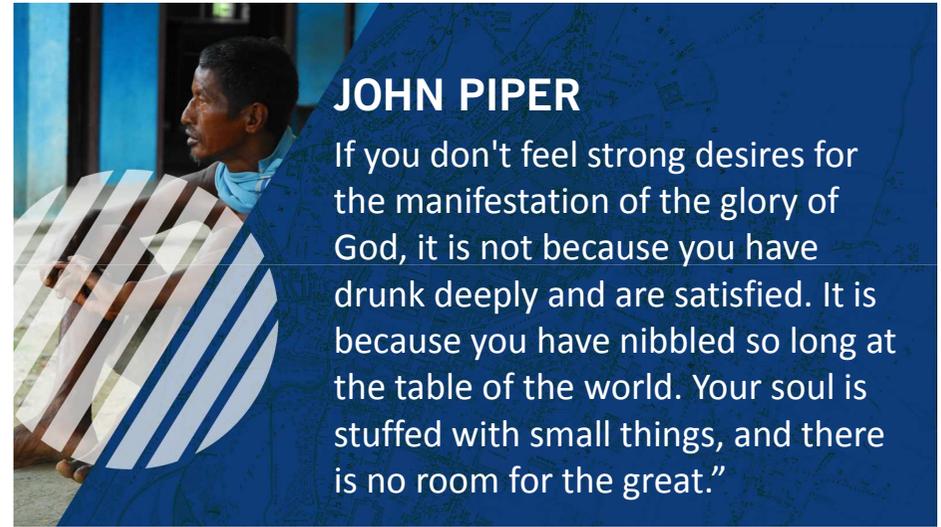
## Haggai 1:4

Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your panelled houses, and His house lie in ruins?



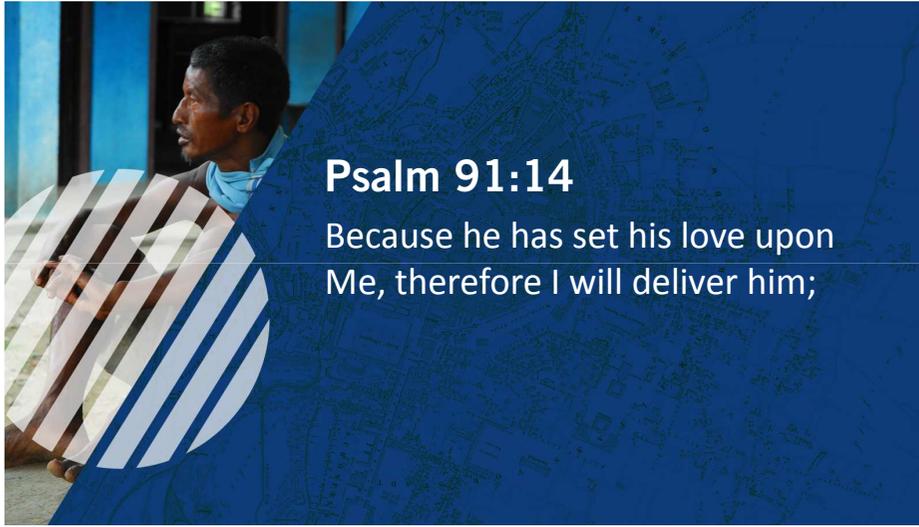
**Matthew 13:14**

Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.



**JOHN PIPER**

If you don't feel strong desires for the manifestation of the glory of God, it is not because you have drunk deeply and are satisfied. It is because you have nibbled so long at the table of the world. Your soul is stuffed with small things, and there is no room for the great."



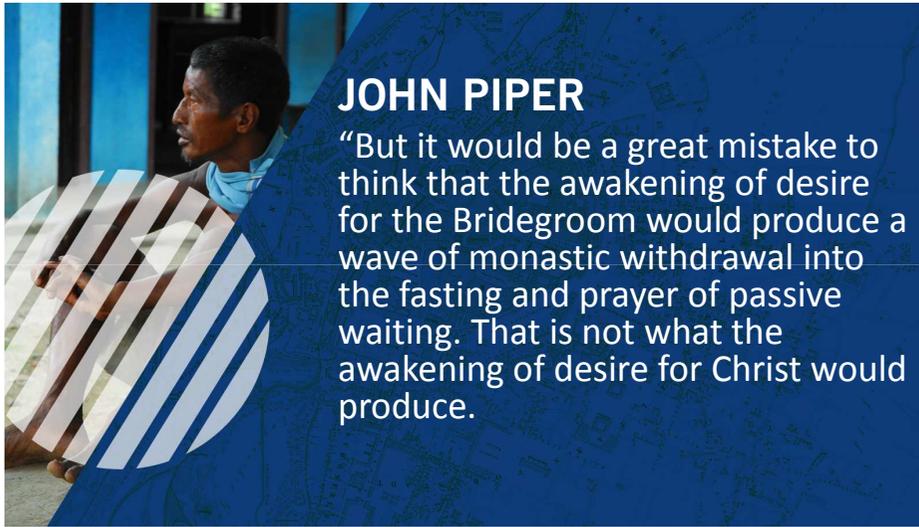
**Psalms 91:14**

Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;

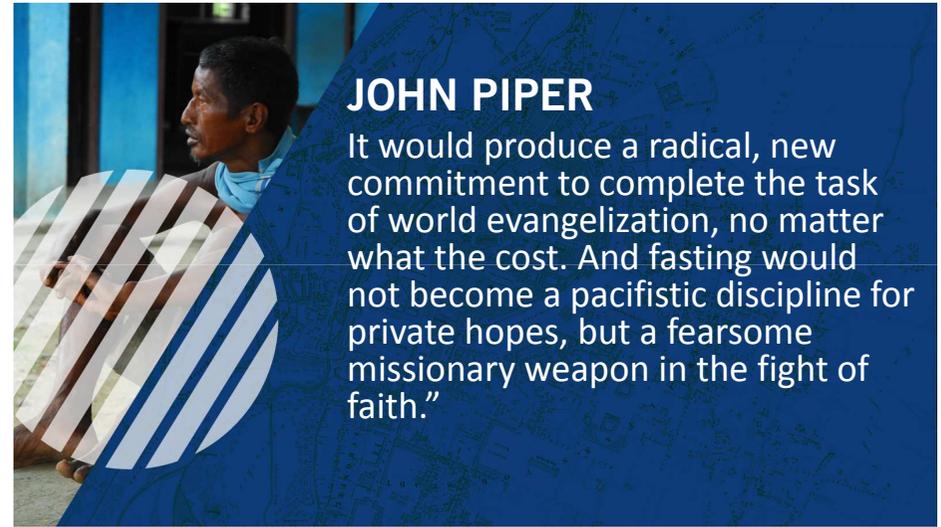


**Isaiah 58**

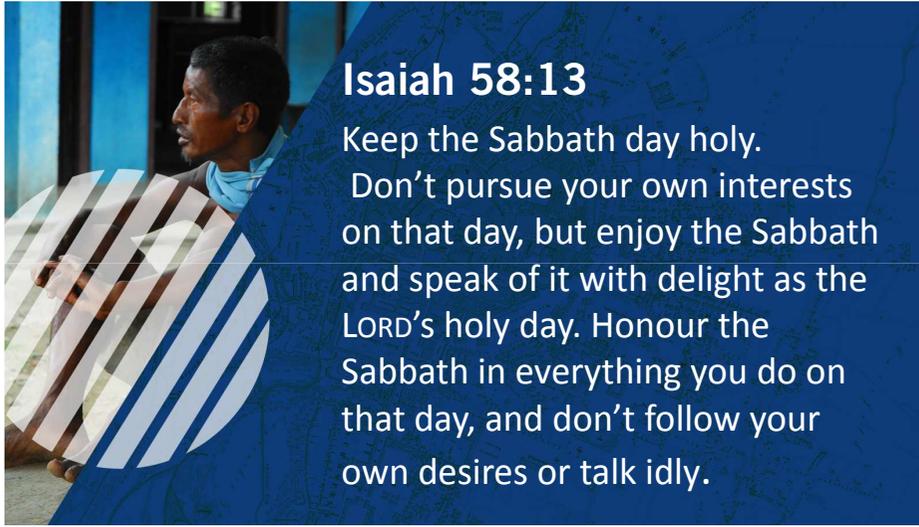
- Verse 1~5: Fast for yourself
- Verse 6 ~ 14 The Fast the Lord has chosen



**JOHN PIPER**  
“But it would be a great mistake to think that the awakening of desire for the Bridegroom would produce a wave of monastic withdrawal into the fasting and prayer of passive waiting. That is not what the awakening of desire for Christ would produce.



**JOHN PIPER**  
It would produce a radical, new commitment to complete the task of world evangelization, no matter what the cost. And fasting would not become a pacifistic discipline for private hopes, but a fearsome missionary weapon in the fight of faith.”



**Isaiah 58:13**  
Keep the Sabbath day holy. Don't pursue your own interests on that day, but enjoy the Sabbath and speak of it with delight as the LORD's holy day. Honour the Sabbath in everything you do on that day, and don't follow your own desires or talk idly.



**Isaiah 58:14**  
Then the LORD will be your delight.



**Psalm 37:4**

Take delight in the LORD,  
and He shall give you the desire's  
of your heart.