

# WHY DON'T CHRISTIANS FAST?

Matthew 9:14-18 | October 23, 2022

## I. John's Disciples (14)

- A. Misplaced loyalty to John the Baptist
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. Surprising association with the Pharisees

## II. Jesus' Disciples (15)

- A. The bridegroom "with them"
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. The bridegroom "taken away"
  - 1. The church continued to fast after the resurrection  
(Acts 13:1-3)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - 2. Jesus' second coming is the return of the bridegroom  
(Matt. 25:1-13)

### **III. Cloth and Wineskins (16-17)**

New cloth & New wine = New Kingdom

Old cloth & Old wineskins = Old Judaism

### **IV. New Fasting (17b)**

A. The Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16)

B. The Single Sacrifice (Hebrews 10:3–4, 12, 19-20)

## **5 Bad Reasons for Biblical Fasting**

1. To fulfill a religious obligation
2. To receive the praise of men
3. To obtain acceptance with God
4. To reach a higher spirituality
5. To inflict punishment on yourself

## **5 Purposes for Biblical Fasting**

1. To strengthen prayer
2. To demonstrate dependence
3. To accompany repentance
4. To express grief
5. To convey worship