

A Heart on Fire Part 2

Luke 3

16 John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

17 His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

- “He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear the threshing floor and to gather the wheat...”
- This is the work of the Holy Spirit by the hand of Jesus...
- It is wonderful when someone puts their trust in Jesus...
- That is the beginning...
- It’s another thing when the wind of the Spirit begins to blow... and the fire of the Holy Spirit begins to burn away all the things that don’t matter...
- When the Holy Spirit works in a persons life, pleasing God is the only thing that matters...

Like the Apostle Paul says in

Ephesians 5:10

“and find out what pleases the Lord.”

This is the work of the Holy Spirit

2 Kings 22

1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years.

2 He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and followed completely the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.

3 In the eighteenth year of his reign, King Josiah sent the secretary, Shaphan... to the temple of the Lord. He said: 4 “Go up to Hilkiah the high priest and have him get ready the money that has been brought into the temple of the Lord, which the doorkeepers have collected from the people. 5 Have them entrust it to the men appointed to supervise the work on the temple. And have these men pay the workers who repair the temple of the Lord— 6 the carpenters, the builders and the masons. Also have them purchase timber and dressed stone to repair the temple.

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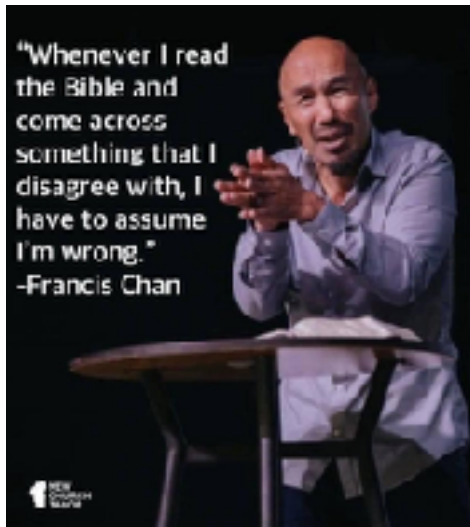
8 Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, “**I have found the Book of the Law** in the temple of the Lord.” He gave it to Shaphan, who read it. 9 Then Shaphan the secretary went to the king and reported to him: “Your officials have paid out the money that was in the temple of the Lord and have entrusted it to the workers and supervisors at the temple.” 10 Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, “*Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.*” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

11 When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his robes.

1. They Found the Book

- **Do you remember when you found the book?**
- **Have you ever seen what happens when someone finds the book?**

- **Show me someone who finds the word of God and who has a hunger for God's Word and I will show you someone the Holy Spirit is working on...**



Vs. 11

When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his robes.

- The tearing of clothing was a traditional expression of horror and astonishment, in the strongest possible way. Josiah showed his grief, on his own account and on account of the nation. This was a good thing and an expression of deep conviction of sin.

Revival and spiritual awakening are marked by such expressions of the conviction of sin. Dr. J. Edwin Orr, in *The Second Evangelical Awakening in Britain*, recounted some examples from the great movement that impacted Britain and the world in 1859-1861:

- i. One story goes: "At the commencement of the prayer-meeting, a sturdy looking man jumped on to a form, and speaking out before all the people, said, 'Do you know me?' The praying men answered, 'Yes.' 'What am I then?' he said. They replied, 'A backslider.' 'Well, then,' said he, 'I will be a backslider no longer; all of you come to Jesus with me,' and he fell in an agony of prayer for God to have

mercy on him; indeed the anguish and desire of his soul was too much for him, for he swooned away on the floor before us all. About thirty that night professed to obtain mercy..."

- ii. Another shared: A high-ranking army officer described the conviction of sin in his Scottish town: "Those of you who are at ease have little conception of how terrifying a sight it is when the Holy Spirit is pleased to open a man's eyes to see the real state of heart... Men who were thought to be, and who thought themselves to be good, religious people... have been led to search into the foundation upon which they were resting, and have found all rotten, that they were self-satisfied, resting on their own goodness, and not upon Christ. Many turned from open sin to lives of holiness, some weeping for joy, for sins forgiven."
- This conviction of sin is the special work of the Holy Spirit, even as Jesus said in **John 16:8** "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin."

That's the winnowing of the Lord...

That's the working of the Holy Spirit...

When the Holy Spirit and the Word of God come together, it's like Nitro meet Glycerin...

It's the Power of God to move things...

It's the Power of God to change things...

It's the Power of God to transform a person...

When this happens, a Fire begins to burn...

12 He (Josiah) gave these orders to Hilkiah the priest, Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king's attendant: **13** "Go and inquire of the

Lord for me and for the people and for all Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the Lord's anger that burns against us because those who have gone before us have not obeyed the words of this book; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written there concerning us."

14 Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam, Akbor, Shaphan and Asaiah went to speak to the prophet Huldah...

15 She said to them, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: Tell the man who sent you to me, **16** 'This is what the Lord says: I am going to bring disaster on this place and its people, according to everything written in the book the king of Judah has read. **17** Because they have forsaken me and burned incense to other gods and aroused my anger by all the idols their hands have made, my anger will burn against this place and will not be quenched.'

18 Tell the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the Lord, 'This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says concerning the words you heard: **19** **Because your heart was responsive and you humbled yourself before the Lord** when you heard what I have spoken against this place and its people—that they would become a curse and be laid waste—and because you tore your robes and wept in my presence, I also have heard you, declares the Lord. **20** Therefore I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will be buried in peace. Your eyes will not see all the disaster I am going to bring on this place.'"

2. Because Josiah's heart was responsive and humble before the Lord, the Lord was merciful to him...

Then a Fire began to burn inside of Josiah for the condition of his country...

2 Kings 23

Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

2 He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord. **3** The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.

4 The king ordered Hilkiah the high priest, the priests next in rank and the doorkeepers to remove from the temple of the Lord all the articles made for Baal and Asherah and all the starry hosts. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron Valley and took the ashes to Bethel. **5** He did away with the idolatrous priests appointed by the kings of Judah

When a person surrenders fully to God, there is a radical change...

6 He took the Asherah pole from the temple of the Lord to the Kidron Valley outside Jerusalem and burned it there. He ground it to powder and scattered the dust over the graves of the common people. **7** He also tore down the quarters of the male shrine prostitutes that were in the temple of the Lord, the quarters where women did weaving for Asherah.

8 Josiah brought all the priests from the towns of Judah and desecrated the high places

10 He desecrated Topheth, which was in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, so no one could use it to sacrifice their son or daughter in the fire to Molek.

12 He pulled down the altars (to false gods)... He removed them, smashed them to pieces and threw the rubble into the Kidron Valley.

13 He desecrated the high places

14 Josiah smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles and covered the sites with human bones.

15 ...He burned the high place and ground it to powder, and burned the Asherah pole also. **16** Then Josiah looked around, and when he saw the tombs that were there on the hillside, he had the bones removed from them and burned on the altar to defile it

19 Josiah removed all the shrines at the high places

20 Josiah slaughtered all the priests of those high places

24 Furthermore, Josiah got rid of the mediums and spiritists, the household gods, the idols and all the other detestable things seen in Judah and Jerusalem. This he did to fulfill the requirements of the law written in the book that Hilkiah the priest had discovered in the temple of the Lord.

25 Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did—with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses.

Josiah found the book...

Josiah's heart was responsive and humble before the Lord...

Josiah was bold for the Lord...

- All these years God watched as Israel worshiped other gods and behaved so wicked...
- Now can you imagine the look on God's face as Josiah went through the land purging the sin out? Can you imagine how God must have felt to see this?

- For God to say “Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did—with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength”

That’s what a heart on Fire will do...

Proverbs 28:1

The wicked flee when no one pursues,
But the righteous are bold as a lion.

Acts 4:13

Now when they saw the **boldness** of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

Ephesians 6

18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit... 19 for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth **boldly** to make known the mystery of the gospel...

When a heart is set on fire for God there is a holy boldness that rises up.

Lord I pray for a Holy Boldness to rise up in the Church of Jesus Christ today...

I pray Hearts begin to burn for Jesus in this hour and a Holy Boldness to rise up in our Nation...

Closing Song

What's needed for a Heart on Fire for God:

1. You have to Find the Book
2. Be responsive and humbled before the Lord
3. Turn to the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength

Luke 3

But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**