

A Heart on Fire

Part 5

Hebrews 12:28-29 NKJV

28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. **29** For our God *is* a consuming fire.

Consuming Fire: A fire that consumes throughout.

He's still working on me
To make me what I need to be
It took him just a week to make the moon and stars
The sun and the earth and Jupiter and Mars
How loving and patient He must be
'Cause He's still workin' on me

Our God is a Consuming Fire

1. Exodus 3 - Moses saw the burning bush of God's presence in the wilderness.
2. Exodus 13 - By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of **fire** to give them light
3. Exodus 19 - Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the Lord descended on it in **fire**.
4. Exodus 24:16,17 - "and the glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud. To the Israelites the glory of the Lord looked like a consuming **fire** on top of the mountain."
5. Acts 2 - "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were

sitting. **3** They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **4** All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit”

In the OT the Glory of God was on the outside...

In the NT the Glory of God is on the inside...

Media: Clip of Leonard Ravenhill

I love this:

- Ravenhill says I don't ask a person if they're saved anymore... I ask them does Christ live in you?
- Christianity is the only religion in the world where a man's God comes and lives inside of him...
- A Chinese scholar says this is the one thing that impressed him the most about the NT is the promise that the Christian becomes the habitation of God...

Our God is a Consuming Fire and are His Habitation

Ephesians 2

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, **2** in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. **3** All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **5** made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions —it is by grace you have been saved.

— — —

22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

- **He is Rich in Mercy**
- He is Abounding in Mercy
- We have this Promise that because he is Abounding in Mercy, we can go from (The first part of the chapter) being dead in our transgressions and sins, to (the end of the chapter) being the habitation of the Holy Spirit...

There is habitation of the Holy Spirit inside of the believer...
 There is a habitation of the Holy Spirit among believers...

Notice Vs. 22

And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

There is a special promise of the presence of the Lord in the believer but the context of what Paul mentions as God's dwelling... It is a picture of believers together...

Acts 2:1 "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came..."

The day of Pentecost came when they were together...

1 Corinthians 3

16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? **17** If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

In the OT God's Temple was made of stones

In the NT God's Temple is made of people

1 Peter 2:5

5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood...

- No wonder Jesus prayed for his Church the way he did, before he left the world...

John 17

20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, **21** that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity.

- God’s Temple in the NT is a picture of believers united together...

- **King Josiah was on Fire for God when he found the Word of God**

John 16:13

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

- **King Hezekiah was on Fire for God and was a man of Prayer**

Romans 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

- **King David was on Fire for God and was Worship and man after God’s Heart**

John 4

23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. **24** God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

- **The Apostle Paul was on Fire for God and revealed this mystery to the early church, God who is a Consuming Fire desires to live inside every believer...**

God fills the hungry...

God Inhabits his people...

Hearts that once were once dead in transgressions are set on fire by the Holy Spirit...