Keepers of the Flame
Pentecost 2026
Leviticus 6:8-10
May 30-31, 2026

Introduction

- Read Lev.6:8-13. Israel was distinct in the ancient world. Their monotheism was not seen in any other culture.

- Their allegiance to one God and one God only, caused a virulent prejudice against them throughout the ancient world. And that prejudice has carried itself all the way to the present day.

- We are tasting some of what it has been like as present day Christianity intersects with the culture of the United States.

- Now out of this monotheistic faith, the whole nation corporately and the priests individually were keepers of the flame. **Overall else, the flame was not to go out on the altar of the Lord.** Notice the author mentions this three times inside of just a few verses. The emphasis is unmistakable. This then becomes the platform for Israel to approach a Holy God. The result is a pleasing odor to the Lord. (Lev.1:13)

The Universal Priesthood

- The National Priority of the Nation of Israel was to maintain the flame. We step into that ministry when we become a member of the church. Hence, the transition from a formal priesthood in the O.T. to a universal priesthood in the N.T.

- Keepers of the flame of God's presence. It is essentially what my book is all about. This becomes our priority and our priorities determine our culture. Go to any Jewish synagogue today and you will find the light burning over the altar area.

Fire In Scripture

Fire is a familiar theme in the scripture. Note the following verses. It usually refers to either cleansing, or purification or judgement. It is a sign of the presence of God.

--Lev.6:12..." The fire on the altar must be kept burning, it must not go out."
--Ex.3:2..The bush burned with fire but was not consumed.
--2Ki.2:11..Elijah swept away in a chariot of fire.
--Is.29:27..His tongue a consuming fire.
--Jer.23:29..My word is like fire…
--Zech.3:2..Is not this man a stick snatched from the fire?
--Mal:3:2..He will be like a refiner's fire.
--Matt.3:11..he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
--Acts 2:3..tongues of fire separated resting on them.
--1Cor.3..A man's works will be revealed by fire.
--1Thess.5:19..do not put out the Spirit's fire.
--Heb.12:29..Our God is a consuming fire.
--Lk.12:29.."I have come to bring fire on the earth and would that it was already kindled.

He did not come to pamper our dysfunction, but to radically change us!

--God is setting a fire on the earth. His people are beginning to burn with fire for Him. Few things are as lethal as fire. It is an all-encompassing phenomenon.

Is.59:19 "**For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the Lord drives along. The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins, declares the Lord.**

◊ In the Scripture the fire must be kept going so that the sacrifice can continue. This was their means of staying clean in the In the sacrifice something dies. As the fire burns in our lives, we continue to die to self and live for God.

◊ I KI:18:24 The God who answers by fire—He is God. The God that we worship is still answering by fire. He is the true and living God. And He desires that we burn hot for Him."

◊ God's people are crying out and have been most of this century to answer by fire. The culture of the world at large has presented us with a great challenge. It desires our devotion to it's idols and it's culture. But our God says, "I will have no other gods before me." (The temples in the Ancient world dedicated to all the gods are empty).

◊ I am Jehovah.."Eternal Being, Only God, Self-Existent and Immutable.'

-----I am refining my people with fire---and when I am done, I will have a glorious church to present to the Father.

---Some think, O well, I am too old or I am too weak, or I am too meek, or I am too whatever…
---That thinking must die in all of us because it is a lie. Why would God choose us as He has if we were not to go all the way and burn hot for Him?
---I am telling you…. some of you are going to do things under the anointing of the Spirit of God that you would never have thought possible…And soon!

What Will It Take To Keep The Fire Burning In Your Life?

◊ Is the fire on the altar of our lives burning or just smoldering?
---Or has it gone out?
---Or was it ever lit?

◊ In Argentina and Brazil, they pray for the anointing, and it seems to be transferable. I believe we should pray for the anointing of fire. We are the priests of the Lord and we must not let the fire go out.

Some of you are already even now experiencing the fire of God on your life! Some are beginning to burn even as I speak.

The fire of God is cleansing and purging you of sin and evil.

Allow those headwaters that Isiah spoke about to come flooding in upon you even this day.

◊ **I believe there is developing a hunger and thirst after righteousness. The attraction of the would is beginning to dim and the light of his presence is beginning to invade areas that were previously off-limits.**

-----Areas of hurt and pain, areas of abuse, areas of doubt and fear, and low self-esteem are being invaded by the light and the fire of God. They are going to fall off some of you and never return.
------Some of you will say it is too good to be true…I can't imagine life like that----**You Will!**

Conclusion

◊ **The anointing for fire is here!**

Fifty-six years ago I received the anointing of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. It transformed my life and my church. Actually, you don't need a "season of the year" to get there. Church tradition has built in these layers of Christian piety to help folks center, and that is well and good. **But the point of the Holy Spirit is to be with us and in us through all seasons of life.**

Please understand, there are two actions of the Holy Spirit in your life that bring fire. First, the Spirit within **(Zech.13:1; Ezek.36:26)** which brings you to Christ in a saving relationship. Second, the Spirit "upon" which brings power for ministry (**Acts 1:8).**

Now God says I am going to anoint you with fire, a fire that is transferable. How many of you want this anointing of fire? Are you ready to give your lives to God?

Nothing will ever be more important than hearing and obeying his voice. Not your house, not your car, not your children, not your family, not your hobbies…nothing! God is all in all. And His plan is a good plan for your life. Not one to fear but to embrace.

----**God loves you and would never give you something that will spoil your fun or ruin your life. That is the agenda of the Devil.**

----But God wants to spoil us for the ordinary. He wants to ruin us for the ordinary. Can you handle it?

----Then we can walk in the power of His Kingdom and witness to this dying culture. The lost will come in when we go out with the anointing of fire.