



WEDNESDAY EVENING AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: Rekindling the Flame

Passage: Revelation 3:14-22

Speaker: Bro. Keith Roberts

Introduction: So many Christians today are living disconnected lives —cut off from the Source without even realizing it. They haven't turned their backs on God in open rebellion, but they've drifted in quiet separation. Outwardly, everything still looks right: they attend church, sing the songs, bow their heads in prayer, and say "amen" at all the right moments. But deep inside, something has changed. The fire that once burned bright has dimmed. The passion, the power, the presence—it's all faded into routine. They still look alive, but the life has stopped flowing.

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

This letter serves as a prescription and a warning for all believers and all churches of falling into the same condition the Laodiceans found themselves in. Outwardly successful, inwardly struggling. Full of programs, prosperity, and polish, yet missing the one thing that truly matters—the fire of His presence. Laodicea looked strong, but it was sick; it looked alive, but it was lukewarm. And before we shake our heads at them, we need to look in the mirror, because their story often mirrors ours. We live in a world that prizes independence, self-sufficiency, and success—and somewhere along the way, we've started thinking we can do Christianity without Christ. But the truth is, the moment we lose our dependence on Him, is the moment the fire starts to fade.

I. Seek Refined Faith (Verse 18a)



WEDNESDAY EVENING AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:7)

If you want the flame to burn again, stop relying on your comfort, your success, or your schedule. Start relying on Christ. Let Him refine your faith through the fires of surrender.

Faith is the spark that starts the flame, but purity is the oxygen that keeps it burning. That's why Christ next spoke of white raiment.

II. Pursue Righteousness (Verse 18b)

When sin enters, the flame dies. You can't walk close to the fire while holding onto what quenches it. If there's secret sin, bitterness, or compromise, lay it down, give it over to God. Purity fans the flame, sin smothers it.

Faith refines, righteousness purifies, but there is still one more need—to see clearly again.

III. Restore Spiritual Vision (Verse 18c)

Lukewarmness starts when we lose sight of who Christ truly is and who we truly are without Him. Ask God to open your eyes again. Get back into His Word daily—not just casually but expectantly. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what you've stopped seeing: the urgency of eternity, the beauty of holiness, and the reality of Christ's presence.

When your faith is refined, your heart is pure, and your eyes are open, there is one more step. Christ stands at the door, knocking

IV. Return to Passionate Fellowship (Verses 19-20)

Rekindling the flame means opening the door again—restoring daily fellowship with Christ. He doesn't want weekend visitation; He wants permanent residence.

When Christ comes in, the fire returns. His presence warms what's cold, revives what's dying, and renews what's distant.



WEDNESDAY EVENING

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Conclusion: Remember this—the fire may have dimmed, but it's not gone. The same Savior who lit that flame in your heart the day you trusted Him hasn't changed. He's still reaching, still calling, still waiting for you to draw near again. Don't stay distant. Don't settle for a flicker when God wants to give you a blaze. Come back to the Source. Let His Spirit breathe life into those embers once more until your heart burns bright again with love, passion, and purpose for Christ. Tonight, He's not asking for perfection—just closeness. So come back to the fire... and let Him make you burn again.



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