

What in the World is God Up To?

Hebrews 12:25-29

April 5, 2020

12²⁵ See to it that you do not reject the one who speaks. For if they did not escape when they rejected him who warned them on earth, even less will we if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven. ²⁶ His voice shook the earth at that time, but now he has promised, **Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.** ²⁷ This expression, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what is not shaken might remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful. By it, we may serve God acceptably, with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our God is a consuming fire.

1. God is in the process of shaking things up. (vs. 25)

(See to it that you do not reject the one who speaks.)

Hebrews 12:25-29 (The Message)

So don't turn a deaf ear to these gracious words. If those who ignored earthly warnings didn't get away with it, what will happen to us if we turn our backs on heavenly warnings? His voice that time shook the earth to its foundations; this time—he's told us this quite plainly—he'll also rock the heavens: "One last shaking, from top to bottom, stem to stern." The phrase "one last shaking" means a thorough housecleaning, getting rid of all the historical and religious junk so that the unshakable essentials stand clear and uncluttered.

2. We must carefully and sincerely surrender to the voice of God. (vss. 28-29)

²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful. By it, we may serve God acceptably, with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire.

- **Our surrender will be evidenced by our thankfulness.** (vs. 28: "...let us be thankful")
- **Our surrender will be evidenced by a new quality of worship and service.** (vs. 28b: *By it, we may serve God acceptably, with reverence and awe,*)

So, what in the world is God up to? *God is in the process of destroying what cannot be purified and actively purifying what cannot be destroyed.*