

*DAY 3*

*SHANE TENNEY*

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Hello Victory Fam! I love how we are starting off the year with prayer and fasting. This quarter's subject is "burning ones," I love that. When I think of burning ones for the Lord what comes to mind is the fire of God. It's the fire of God that purifies and makes us holy. It is the fire of God that makes our hearts like a torch, burning hot with the love of God. God's fire burns the chaff off the wheat of our hearts and makes us pure. Fire also illuminates and gives light in the darkness. Our spirits are filled with the light of God when Holy Spirit comes to inhabit us. Holy Spirit reveals the fire of God in us and through us.

Proverbs 20:27 (NKJV) says,

"The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart."

I remember the first-time hearing and reading this verse. My heart immediately exploded with a hunger for more of the Lord. I pray the same for you who listen to or read this. I found myself praying this over myself in the weeks following: "Lord, my spirit is your lamp. Search the inner depths of my heart. Please send your fire!"

Lamps in ancient times were made from clay and filled with oil. When the individual was ready to use the lamp to help navigate where they were going, or to see what they were doing, they would light the lamp with fire and the oil in the lamp would keep the fire burning.

Do you see the imagery the scripture is using to paint the sweet prophetic picture of the Spirit of the Lord in us? We are made from the dust of this earth, the oil in us is the anointing from the abiding presence of Holy Spirit. The fire of God illuminates our very being, filling us with the light of God. It's the Lord in us that helps us navigate where we are going and allows us to see what we are supposed to be doing.

Many of us know this truth that our hearts have become the altar of the Lord. The sacrifice of our will through faith has become the sweet-smelling aroma of worship to the Father. It's the only sacrifice we can burn with God's holy fire that He finds pleasing and acceptable. In Old Testament times the fire on the altar of sacrifice was to burn continually night and day (Leviticus 6:12). You could see the smoke in the day and fire at night that came from worship. It was to speak to the surrounding nations that God had marked out a special people for Himself and marked them with His presence.

This applies still to this day but in a different way. Today, because of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus and the power of His resurrection to those who believe, God has not only set His Spirit in the midst of a people but has indeed set His Spirit inside of His people making them burning torches of His goodness and holiness. God has called us to be His light in the world, to bring the revelation of His Son and His Kingdom to this earth.

When God sent His fire on the sacrifice in Leviticus 9, it was up to the priest to keep the fire burning. This tells us only God can provide the fire. He provides the spark; we are responsible to feed the fire that he has set on our hearts to burn continually.

In New Testament times, that is done by faith. Faith is giving God our yes by His grace every day. It is done by dying to ourselves and picking up our cross and following the Lord. It is submitting ourselves to Him, being transformed by His Word and Presence. It is allowing Him to go to the deep places of our heart, shining His light on every dark corner until we are fully consumed by His awesome presence. He created our spirits to be set on fire with His Spirit. He desires for you to be His lamp in this world and to bring the revelation of Light to the darkness.

I believe this year the Lord wants to use us to bring a Matthew 4:16 experience to the people of this Nation. Matthew 4:16 (NKJV) says this, "The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death, light has dawned." God is going to use His burning ones to bring the revelation of His Son, He is going to use the wise virgins who prepared enough oil. He is going to send the fire of His holiness and power to show His glory among His saints. We are part of that story. So, I encourage you today to declare that your spirit is the lamp of the Lord, to ask God to set you on fire to burn for Him, and to reveal the Lord Jesus and the Kingdom of Light to the people around you. Amen.