

The Fiery Seal – This One Thing

Philippians 3:13
Hebrews 1:7

We have come together today to celebrate 2017, the New Year! This is a time we demarcate the past from the future – the old from the new. Where we are not imprisoned by the past. Where our future is not governed entirely by our history.

Through Jesus Christ we are spiritual Jews by water baptism in Jesus name and the infilling of the Holy Ghost with evidence of speaking in tongues.

And during the New Year for Jews Yom Kippur they focus on three things that I believe can also help you and me.

1. Repentance
 2. Prayer
 3. Fasting
- It's time for reconciliation where the Jews seek out people to ask for their forgiveness. Their emphasis during this time is the renewing of relational love. They use Leviticus 23:27 to highlight the need to re-examine their priorities for love and relationships going into the New Year. And so, they do this with repentance, prayer, and fasting.
 - This time we call the New Years or Yom Kippur reflects
 1. The body of Christ receiving renewed power to love.
 2. And to reach a dying and lost world.
 - This is a very sacred and serious time of year, for Gods people. While the world loses itself in the frivolity of parties, drunkenness, and lascivious pleasure, God wants His people to focus its priorities on the renewed power of relational love.

This is that one thing that Paul is talking about when he says I am forgetting 2016 (these things which are behind me and reaching in 2017 with Yom Kippur for one thing ahead of me. That one thing is expanding my heart for love through the fire and power of God.

- Hebrews 1:7 call us ministers as flames of fire with a personal angel with us. This term is used here because this flaming fire is the seal of love on an enlarged heart. The flames are Gods fire and power through prayer going after the enemies that are attacking relational love.

There are three kinds of flaming fire.

You and I need to perfect and see the growing of relational love.

(Turn to Ephesians 6:16)

- a) Fiery darts is symbols of specific spiritual interferences the devil uses to pollute and pervert love.
 - b) They are fiery because they aim at the weak spots of your life in order to remove the seal of love on your heart.
 - c) You see your love is not enough to win lost people to sustain safe family relationships.
- So, God give us
 1. His personal Angel
 2. His word
 3. His spirit
 4. His name
 5. And the gift of prayer to make love become flames. Only by prayer can love be flaming ministries putting out the fiery darts of the spiritual forces working against our love for each other.
 - Give an example of a man who struggles to pray for his wife cheating on him because he is hiding sin in his own life from cheating on her. Now he says his prayers are not being answered.
 - Demons know if I regard iniquity in my heart or become bitter with a close one. My prayers do not make it to God's throne.
 - This is why this first fire is necessary to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Read Psalms 139:24.

Now I'm ready to release my worships and intercession. Now I become a flaming minister with fire of His love.

Read Ephesians 6:17

- We want our prayers to be fierier than Satan's fiery darts.
- This verse speaks of the fiery darts on the mind. So, our ability to see the joy of relational love gets hindered by a specific something God is asking us to stop doing, give your change and then we stubbornly to say no.
- Now we struggle with relational love we don't experience passion and fulfillment in your relationships. This is how fiery darts work.
- So, I need this first fire by worship and prayer and fasting to help me say yes to the Holy Ghost so He can enlarge my heart to love like He loves. This is the one thing I must do. I am a minister of flaming fire. My praying can quench the fiery darts of the wicked. Now there is a second fire – turn to Matthew 26:13.

This is about the priorities of a church member.

- a) It's showing you and I a word picture of a heart on fire with extravagant love for Jesus Christ.

- b) Jesus rebukes both the religious Pharisees and His Apostles in Luke 7 because they put the size of influence over the size of the heart. Jesus was impressed with this woman's size of heart and not the size of influence from the Pharisees.
- c) Remember without the power of God's fire as a seal upon your heart you cannot love like Jesus.
- d) Yet like Judas and the disciples we become aggravated and at times unresponsive to the serious call to relational love.

(Read Matthew 26:7-9)

- Judas was the treasurer for Jesus. He had the money bag. He was a thief. He was the one complaining about Mary's extravagant fiery love.
- Now Judas sold and betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Ex. 21:23 says the value of an injured slave.
- So, the fiery extravagant love this woman gave Jesus worth to Judas an injured slave.
- And that's how people today see the priority of praying for the fire of relational love. Like an injured slave because we put all other priorities before this. Judas never valued extravagant love. Yet Jesus says where ever the gospel; is preached let it be reminded what this woman has done.
- This kind of fire produces love that covers our sin. Like Adam's coats of skin.

Look at how this woman fans the fire of extravagant love in Luke 7:17.

- Jesus has overpaid her for the judgement and problems He delivered her from, so she is responding to His over payment of love.
 - 1) A Year's worth of wages
 - 2) Breaks social protocol
 - 3) Risks her life at a time people sought to kill Jesus
 - 4) Experienced religious rejection
- She is responding to the over payment of love with extravagant love by His fire. This makes her a minister of flaming fire. It's that one thing Paul speaks of.
- Jesus said this one thing Mary is doing must be preached all over the world.
- We must have two fires to become ministers of flaming fire to quench the fiery darts of the wicked against relational love as I stated earlier. This is a very serious time of the year – Let me show you Revelation 2:1-5

This is the third fire.

- 1) The first fire was releasing love for my loved ones.
- 2) The second fire is the extravagant love responding back to Jesus for over payment.
- 3) The 3rd and last love is God enlarging our hearts for a dying lost world.
 - a) This verse is talking about Ephesus their fiery heart for God while trying to operate a busy church.
 - b) God is clearly saying I will not multiply a loveless church

c) I don't want a cold and indifferent obedience towards me while you are busy doing my will.

You need the third fire to make you a flaming minister of fire.

- Ephesus was productive. Ephesus sacrificed. They increased their influence but did not increase the size of their heart.
- They didn't love God like the used to
- They were more impressed with the size of their work more than the size of their heart.
- Ephesus was not on fire in love. Like Judas it became as valuable as 30 pieces of silver.
- God is saying to Ephesus – I want your heart to be moved like it used to. I want it to be alive.
- God wanted to rule His bride through a heart on fire for Him.
- I call it "Rule – her – ship"
- Where ruler ship flows from a heart fully given.
- Where you are preoccupied with God while being preoccupied with your daily task.

Ephesus was an example of a loveless heart on fire and Revelation 2:5 says if you keep trying to operate this way I am going to remove your candlestick. Guess what that is?

1. The influence of a leader or a Pastor in your life.
2. Your children will grow up and back slide.
3. The preached word will be taken out of your spirit.

All because I want to love God and His people on my terms (either or)

And here is how I stir up the fire for the seal of love on my heart.

Roman 8:35 – 39 – This is the one thing I do – leaving the old things behind me – and press towards the mark in prayer, in worship, and fasting. I want the three fires to set the seal of love in my heart. Now I've got to worship and pray my way through these fiery darts. I am doing this because I've been overpaid.

The Overpayment Response to God

1. Commit to teaching a Home bible study a week
2. Commit to mentoring and disciplining one person a week
3. Commit to a two-hour prayer shift twice a week
4. Commit to the seven day fast
5. Commit to daily international acts of affections to your loved ones
6. Intentionally go out of your way to sacrifice for a saint financially, or in your time.
7. Catch up with late tithes, corporate stewardship, and offerings
8. Come for preservice prayer and on time for church services
9. Be faithful to midweek services
10. Invite visitors and saints to church services.
11. Be willing to pray in open public when the Holy Ghost calls you to

12. Endure aggravating safe relationships.
13. Show your open gratitude for these who have helped get you to where you are.
14. Invest time into your ministry gifting. (Reading, practicing, and perfecting your gift)

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