

The God Who Answers by Fire

Kings 18:24 AMPC

[24] Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the One Who answers by fire, let Him be God. And all the people answered, it is well spoken.

Exodus 3:2-6 AMPC

[2] The Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, yet was not consumed. [3] And Moses said, I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burned. [4] And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the midst of the bush and said, Moses, Moses! And he said, Here am I. [5] God said, Do not come near; put your shoes off your feet, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. [6] Also He said, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

- X At the core of our sun in the solar system it creates a temperature of 27 million degrees Fahrenheit.
- X We are 93 million miles away from the sun and yet on any clear day in the summer if you stay in the sun long enough you can get heat burn, heat stroke or skin cancer. And that's from a sun 93 million miles away.

And so it is with the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

- X God Himself is like the sun. He is Holy. He knows no sin. None of us could come close to this Holy God and live because of our sin nature.
- X Israel feared this God terribly when He shot lightning and thunder on Mt. Sinai.
- X No man can see the face of the raw presence of Elohim-Yahweh
- X But He filtered His Holy Fire through the Man, Christ Jesus.
- X So you and I would not be burned up by His Holy Fire.
- X Through this Holy Fire operating through the person of Jesus Christ we could have the hope of being touched by His love, being touched by this Holy Fire.

This is what the Holy Ghost is for when we worship and talk in tongues. It is God's filtering system of fire and pure love manifesting itself to us. This and only this that makes us holy. This and only this empowers us with the holy fire of pure love for relational love. This fire is superior in love because God is holy and moral goodness unparalleled to nothing we know of. This holy fire of love is omnipotent against all other forecasters of evil and counterfeit loves.

Song of Songs 8:6-7 says this Holy Fire can change our personalities, our character, and our generational patterns in our lives.

- X This holy fire of love is like a seal on the heart. Just like the fire from heaven that came down on the Ark of the Covenant or Solomon's temple.
- X It's a holy fire that is supposed to impact our motivation to love and sacrifice for others.
- X **6] For this holiness love of fire is as strong as death.**
- X It's stronger than jealousy and hate.
- X Its flashes are flashes of fire, a most vehement flame the very flame of the Lord! **[7] Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it.**
- X Like Moses if any one comes in direct contact with the holy fire of God it will alter their ability to love and to sacrifice and give of themselves. It's impossible not to.

You see, anybody experiencing the burning bush of God's holy fire will experience a change within themselves:

1. For example, you will experience an increase in the fear God towards both His Word and His Spirit.
2. This real holy fire of His love alters your thinking. It quiets the mind from racing and running. It's a ceasing of the business of the mind.
3. A renewed heart to practice loving people in hard situations- Song of Solomon 8:6 and the Ark of the Covenant are the same. Fire coming down on our heart.
4. A renewed heart for reaching lost souls
5. A renewed heart to practice servanthood to the family of God
6. A renewed heart to practice speaking the truth in hard conversations in love.
7. A transformation in your attitude towards yourself because His holiness touched you.
8. This holy pure fire of love increase our motivation for zeal and pursuing after God with renewed enthusiasm.

Isaiah 33:14-17 AMPC

[14] The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling seizes the godless ones. They cry Who among us can dwell with that devouring fire? Who among us can dwell with those everlasting burnings? [15] He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises gain from fraud and from oppression, who shakes his hand free from the taking of bribes, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes to avoid looking upon evil. [16] Such a man will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him; water for him will be sure. [17] Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; your eyes will behold a land of wide distances that stretches afar.

1 John 4:16 AMPC

[16] And we know (understand, recognize, are conscious of, by observation and by experience) and believe (adhere to and put faith in and rely on) the love God cherishes for us. God is love, and he who dwells and continues in love dwells and continues in God, and God dwells and continues in him.

This Holy Fire of love is like expensive perfume.

- X It cost you to love
- X Cheap perfume doesn't last long
- X And neither does prayer with little sacrifice.
- X Its affects wears off like cheap perfume.

God's holiness of pure love manifest itself as water, as wind, but also as fire. Elijah built an altar to accommodate the Fire of God.

- X He used water and wood.
- X This represents our persistency to pursue this superior Holy Fire of love.
- X This kind of building created a place for the increase of His love.
- X Elijah built a trench to accommodate the Fire of God.
- X Without making an effort at altar call, at home, and in our private lives we face some fire killers in our lives.

- A. Guile
- B. Practicing sin

- C. Pride
- D. Stubbornness inflexibility
- E. Pleasing others more than God
- F. Quitting at waiting on God and we then give into our fleshly lust.

But, Elijah brought the wood and the water, as what I call fire stokers.

- A. Worship
- B. Forgiveness
- C. Humility
- D. Faith in His love
- E. Passion to pursue Him
- F. **Embracing Calvary's crucified love- I must keep sacrifice and self-denial of the self-will in front of me at all times in order to expand the capacity for his love and fire in me.**
- G. Fasting

Ezekiel 8:2 AMPC

[2] Then I beheld, and lo, a likeness of a Man with the appearance of fire; from His waist downward He was like fire, and from His waist upward He had the appearance of brightness like gleaming bronze.

1 Kings 18:24 AMPC

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