

Don't Let the Fire Go Out

11] And he shall put off his garments and put on other garments, and carry the ashes outside the camp to a clean place. [12] And the fire upon the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not be allowed to go out. The priest shall burn wood on it every morning and lay the burnt offering in order upon it and he shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. [13] The fire shall be burning continually upon the altar; it shall not go out. Lev. 6:11-13

- ❖ That fire is the inner passion for prayer and longing for God's presence. It is desire for God that supersedes all other competing desires that scream at you on a regular basis.
- ❖ That fire is the pushing of God's will above our own stubborn self-centered will and self-entitlement mind sets.
- ❖ That fire is the expectation of God's spirit moving miraculously after I have prayed, refusing to believe my current impossibilities will remain the same.
- ❖ That fire is the passion of prayer that provokes relational sacrificing for each other. It is desire backed by faith in His superior love for me.
- ❖ That fire is the strong conviction of holiness separation from worldly seductions that give us spiritual amnesia, procrastination, and apathy for Kingdom business. You keep doors closed from besetting sins and impure thinking.
- ❖ That fire is Holy Ghost passion in you that fights off satanic attacks against our character and doing great exploits. So I won't accept living an average and mediocre life. So I won't quit believing God when my prayers are delayed.
- ❖ That fire is a certain kind of boldness to speak the gospel to others and to expect healing and deliverance for others as a way of life and not just when my family is in trouble. Don't let the fire on your altar go out.

Because there is another kind of fire that looks like God's fire but it is not. It's a fire people try to use when there is no daily prayer altar of sacrifice.

- ❖ The Bible calls this strange fire in **Lev. 10:1-2**.
- ❖ Where Nadab and Abihu sought to conduct Kingdom business without the fire that came from the brazen altar. They had substitutional fire. They tried to engage in worship and praise with open doors of hidden sin in their life and experienced a separation from the presence of the Lord. It was strange fire. They did not use nor regard the perpetual fire of God from the prayer altar of personal sacrifice as necessary to do Kingdom business. They lost the fear of the Lord. For the Lord declared in **Lev. 10:3** after He killed these two men, I will show myself Holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored.
- ❖ Strange fire is when I substitute the passion and the sacrifice of prayer with the busyness of the cares of life and church work by itself without keep the perpetual fire going in my own individual prayer altar.

The perpetual fire in us is like the attitude of Jesus with His whip in the temple.

- ❖ This fire in us releases the passion of our praise and worship against the money changers in the temple. It's an attitude of passion as Jesus displayed with His whip.
- ❖ These money changers are attitudes and influences in our lives that seek to undermine the power of God's presence in our temple.
- ❖ Jesus said, "***Your temple is the house of prayer. Don't let it become a den of thieves.***"
- ❖ Where both the buyer of animals and the sellers sought the convenience of approaching the Lord's house. The seller had raised prices like a seven eleven convenience store. The buyer in some cases didn't want the inconvenience of traveling from afar with the in cumbersome animals. It was more convenient to purchase the animal at the temple. It was more convenient to rely on the people running the service to provide the anointing for the service. I will pay a convenient sacrifice by showing up and in the love offering. This is strange fire that doesn't produce lasting revival.
- ❖ The only solution Jesus had for strange fire and convenient sacrifice was a whip. He needed to get across the seriousness and urgency keep my house a house of prayer. Don't let the fire go out in your temple.
- ❖ Your whip tonight is the attitude of passion and determination of pursuing His presence without strange fire.
- ❖ Your whip is running out the money changers of complacency, apathy, indifference in the temple.
- ❖ Your whip is killing the convenient spirit that says just show up tonight and expect no miracles or healings or deliverance in the services because of personal discouragement.
- ❖ **Psalms 149** shows us how to turn your whip of worship and praise loose against the money changers of your soul. The Psalmist refers to them as kings and nobles because of their strong influence to undermine the power of God's presence.
- ❖ All because I can never let the perpetual fire go out at my altar of prayer.

Psalm 149:6-9 AMPC

[6] Let the high praises of God be in their throats and a two-edged sword in their hands, [7] To wreak vengeance upon the nations and chastisement upon the peoples, [8] To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron, [9] To execute upon them the judgment written. He the Lord is the honor of all His saints. Praise the Lord! (Hallelujah!)

How to pray:

1. Help me to be honest and transparent with you Lord concerning any money changers in my life seeking to put out the fire on my altar of daily prayer.
2. Spread the fire of prayer through me as an example to my family, my church, and my community.
3. Let this for be contagious in my harvest regardless of the obstacles I am facing.
4. Increase the fear of the Lord in my altar of prayer to protect and grow the fire of holiness living in my life.

Songs of Songs 8:6-7 AMPC

[6] Set me like a seal upon your heart, like a seal upon your arm; for love is as strong as death, jealousy is as hard and cruel as Sheol (the place of the dead). 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. If a man would offer all the goods of his house for love, he would be utterly scorned and despised.

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