

FIREWORKS

NOVEMBER 13, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

Every believer is priceless in God's eyes. Our worth is not measured in silver or gold, but blood. Every believer plays a significant role in carrying out God's plan. There are no unneeded members. Every believer is a habitation for God. To house His presence, glory and power. To represent Him in the world. Every believer is to be a house on fire. Ablaze with the spirit and serving Him with ardent zeal and enthusiasm; a firework or display of energy or brilliance.

2 CHRON. 7:1-3

When God's people saw the fire come down, no one had to persuade them to bow down and worship God. The effect the fire of God had on the people speaks for itself. Fire is a powerful force that has many effects when manifested.

Four Types of Fire

- 1.) The Fire of Faithful Obedience (**LEV. 9:1-4, 8-11**). Aaron and his sons were faithfully obedient to offer sacrifices to the Lord according to the explicit instructions given to them by God. They followed the instructions to the letter.
 - A.) This is the fire of faithful obedience, "as the Lord commanded" are the key words. Jesus fulfilled them all.
 - B.) Mt. Pleasant Gestapo.
- 2.) The Fire of Glory (**LEV. 9:22-24**). This fire came from before the Lord that consumed what was left of the sacrifices on the altar outside the court.
 - A.) This was a sign of God's approval. We see this when Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal (**1 KGS. 18:21-40**).
 - B.) **EX. 40:34-38** The cloud and fire represent God's presence and approval. The effect was moving them back to God.
- 3.) The Fire of Rebellion (**LEV. 10:1**). Nadab and Abihu offered "unauthorized" fire or "strange" fire before the Lord. There aren't many details, but the main problem is found in "which He commanded them not"! It was the fire of pride, human invention, dishonor, of carelessness.
 - A.) This fire led to the fourth fire we hear about in scripture.
- 4.) The Fire of Judgment (**LEV. 9:2**). Nadab and Abihu knew better. They knew why careful directions were given. Why the blood was shed and splattered. They knew the rituals and regulations.
 - A.) **EX. 24:1-2, 9-11** They were with their father and uncle when they saw God! They just performed the sacrifices in **Leviticus 9**. They were judged because of their carelessness and arrogance.
LEV. 10:3 They were to treat the things of God as being holy. Our God is holy, to be revered. His commands are not suggestions or regulations a joke.
 - B.) **NUM. 16:28-35** Korah's family was swallowed up and the 250 co-conspirators were consumed by the Fire of Judgment, for rebelling against the leadership of Aaron and Moses. In **Verses 36-50**, a memorial was set up to remind them of God's regulations; yet, they rebelled again and 14,700 died by the plague.

Conclusion: Our God is a consuming fire. The things of God are holy. **EPH. 5:1-2** tell us God's fiery judgment fell on Jesus. In **V 15-17 NIV**, look carefully as when we cross a street. God's mercy, love and grace should never lead us to carelessness in serving God. Being careless can lead to the fire of judgment.

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