

Catching Fire – 3

Acts 1:8

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." NKJV

- Power to live righteous
- Power to tell others
- Power to Heal, deliver and save
- Power to Catch Fire

No Slide: Matthew 3:11

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. NKJV

Our life is for Him and He has provided all we need to succeed!

Will I allow the fire of God to purify, sanctify and glorify the Lord in my life?

When I catch fire with the presence of God He consumes me from the inside out

I don't have to work at being righteous His presence burns off the chaff in my life

No Slide: Romans 12:1-2

He purifies me as a living sacrifice

No Slide: Titus 2:11-12

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 **teaching** us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age. NKJV

- Chasten, instruct, learn or teach – Holy Spirit

No Slide: Hebrews 6:11-12

11 And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. NKJV

- Sluggish – (slothful) (dull) to loose my passion and purpose

2 Peter 1:2-5, 9

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may **be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge,.....

9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. NKJV

Ephesians 4:17-24

17 With the Lord's authority let me say this: Live no longer as the ungodly do, for they are **hopelessly confused**. 18 Their closed minds are full of darkness; they are far away from the life of God because they have shut their minds and **hardened their hearts** against him. 19 They don't care anymore about right and wrong, and they have given themselves over to immoral ways. Their lives are filled with all kinds of impurity and greed.

20 But **that isn't what you were taught when you learned about Christ**. 21 Since you have heard all about him and have learned the truth that is in Jesus, 22 throw off your old evil nature and your former way of life, which is rotten through and through, full of lust and deception. 23 Instead, **there must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitudes**. 24 You must display a new nature because you are a new person, created in God's likeness — righteous, holy, and true. NLT

- When we don't allow Holy Spirit and the word to germinate the seed in us we become confused and spiritually dull
- Jesus said that if we were to abide in Him He would produce fruit
- We become more and more like Him
- Displaying our New Nature – Holiness
- Holiness is something He produces in us
- The Seed of Jesus has been planted in us
– **Galatians 3:16**
- As we nurture it, it grows and bears fruit

1 Peter 1:23-25

23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, 24 because

"All flesh is as grass,
And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.
The grass withers,
And its flower falls away,
25 But the word of the LORD endures forever."

Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you. NKJV

- The seed is incorruptible, it is perfect
- There is nothing wrong with the Word of God
- The word will accomplish what it is sent to do
 - Isaiah 55:11
- We need to start to think and see ourselves according to the word of the Lord – Meditate
- This is how transformation takes place
- This is how our prayers produce fruit

Jeremiah 17:7-8

7 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
And whose hope is the LORD.
8 For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters,
Which spreads out its roots by the river,
And will not fear when heat comes;
But its leaf will be green,
And will not be anxious in the year of drought,
Nor will cease from yielding fruit. NKJV

Mark 4:3-9, 13

3 "Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And it happened, as he sowed, that some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds of the air came and devoured it. 5 Some fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth. 6 But when the sun was up it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered away. 7 And some seed fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. 8 But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

9 And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

13 And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?
NKJV

- Jesus was saying this is so important that if we understand this we understand how the Kingdom works

“Inside of every person there’s a spark. There’s the potential for spiritual perception and receiving from God, but it must be developed. Since most people spend virtually no time focused on the things of the Lord, they’ve become spiritually dull. Since there’s no way the Lord can speak to such people, He puts spiritual truths out there in parables”
– Andrew Wommack (Effortless Change)

Matthew 13:10, 13, 15

10 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?"

13 Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull.

Their ears are hard of hearing,

And their eyes they have closed,

Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.' NKJV

- We can not understand spiritual truth with the natural man
- That is why we need the word to transform our thinking
- We can only understand Spiritual truth by living out of the “New Man” – Eph. 2:15, 4:24; Col. 3:10
- Not living out of the “New Man” can cause us to become spiritually dull
- Grown Dull – Waxed Gross (KJV)

Waxed – as in making a candle – dipping over and over
This is a picture of a life that has not been trained or disciplined by the word and the Spirit of the Lord

With every dip there is more wax coated on the candle
More of the world
More carnal living
More self righteousness, hiding and blame
The presence of the Lord melts our waxed hearts!

Psalm 97:5

5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
NKJV

- The fire of the Lord will correct us and transform us

Hebrews 12:1-2

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside every weight**, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. NKJV

The more I seek Jesus, the less likely I am to sin. The more I seek the world the less likely I am to know Jesus

Spiritual Discipline is for sons

Hebrews 12:5-8 NKJV

5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:

"My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD,
Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens,
And scourges every son whom He receives."

7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

Proverbs 3:11-12

11 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD,
Nor detest His correction;

12 For whom the LORD **loves** He corrects,
Just as a father the son in whom he **delights**. NKJV

Andrew Farley on p.234ff of his book God Without Religion he explains how a translation error could've happened. In his expert opinion, a Hebrew word that can be translated "to scourge" can also be translated "to inquire into." In other words, God doesn't scourge us, rather God deeply inquires into our lives as he disciplines us, so that we can experience a harvest of righteousness and peace. (Heb 12:6, Farley's paraphrase)

Hebrews 12:11

11 Now no **chastening** seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the **peaceable fruit of righteousness** to those who have been **trained** by it. NKJV

- Chastening – tutor, train or correct
- We should love Discipline – **Proverbs 12:1, 3 NLT**
- Preparing us for our inheritance
- Learning how to reign

Hebrews 12:14

14 Strive to live in peace with everybody and pursue that **consecration** and holiness without which no one will [ever] see the Lord. AMP