

“Zeal for Your House”

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake from multiple sources)

Introduction:

A. John 2:13-17

1. It's hard for some people to imagine Jesus getting angry and cleansing the temple in that manner.
2. I have heard well meaning, misguided people say that He only used the scourge to drive out the animals. Really!? Based on what?
3. Jesus was simply demonstrating the zeal He had for the House of God.
4. Psalm 69:8-9 - Zelos - “heat, ardor, fervent mind, indignation” (Strong's)

B. Are we consumed with zeal for the house of God today?

1. Do we have time for services honoring Jesus who worked with God from before the beginning for our salvation?
2. Do we have anything significant to give to the One who without reservation gave His life for us?
3. Do we really believe? I don't mean, Do we go to the church building three times each week.
4. Worship is not a duty; it is a privilege. If we treat worship lightly; we disrespect God Who is the object of our worship.

I. ARE WE CONSUMED WITH ZEAL FOR THE LORD'S CHURCH?

- A. Eph. 3:10-11 - The church is the wisdom of God.
- B. Acts 20:28 - Jesus paid for the church using His lifeblood as currency.
- C. Are you a critic or a supporter of the church?
- D. When was the last time you prayed for the church?
- E. Are you consumed with zeal for the Lord's church?

II. ARE WE CONSUMED WITH ZEAL FOR THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST?

- A. Mark 8:38 - We cannot be embarrassed by any tenet of the doctrine of Christ.
- B. 1Tim. 4:16 - It is only by means of the doctrine of Christ that we can be saved.
- C. The doctrine of Christ is being challenged today.
 1. By those who want to do new, unauthorized things.
 2. By those who want to turn old methods into doctrine.
 3. By those who want to keep fighting the old battles instead of the present enemy
 4. By those who are convinced that they have full knowledge of the doctrine of Christ
- D. Do we support the doctrine of Christ and those who proclaim it?
 1. Titus 2:1; 1Tim. 6:3-4; 2John 9-11
- E. Are you consumed with zeal for the doctrine of Christ?

III. ARE WE CONSUMED WITH ZEAL FOR THE WORK OF CHRIST?

- A. Luke 19:10 - Came to seek and save the lost.
- B. Matt. 28:19-20 - Make disciples of all nations.
- C. Luke 14:16-24 - Compel them to come in.

D. Are we grieved by lost souls - Rom. 9:2-3

1. When is the last time you prayed for a lost soul?
2. Nurses crying over patients who passed away unsaved
3. I have brethren who think that getting in a pulpit and going off on some denomination or going on a tear over some issue is saving souls. I'll take the Christians who grieve over lost souls every time, because they will reach those lost souls
4. I'm not saying those things do not need addressed, but not as often as they think
5. Do you know why many preachers tend to focus on issues and hobbies? Because in many cases, that's all they know. It's too much work to learn more about the word of God to truly declare the whole counsel of God
6. Before you get excited about me sorting out the preachers, do you know why most Christians prefer to do other works like helping with a work party, teaching a class, or any other work besides personal work which is the duty of every Christian? It's easier to focus on these other works because we feel we can succeed in those areas. So we get busy with those other things and rationalize that we just don't have time left for personal work.
7. Do you understand that Jesus' primary mission in this world was to save souls? He saved us to become fishers of men, not keepers of the aquarium!
8. Are you consumed with the mission of Christ?

Conclusion:

- A. Lest we think zeal was appropriate in the life of Jesus but not necessary in our own lives, remember the words of Jesus - Matt. 22:36-38.
 1. Let's wake up from our slumber and be about the business of God
 2. Psalm 132:1-5
 3. Life is very fragile, time is passing quickly, and eternity is so long.