

**The Basis of All Our Priestly Service—
The Fire from the Altar of Burnt Offering**

Message 2 - Week 2

Friday

Exo. 3:2 – Footnote 2²

Jer. 23:29 – Footnote 29¹

I. E. The fire burning out of the midst of the thornbush was the Triune God, the God of resurrection—Exo. 3:2, 4, 6; Matt. 22:31-32.

This was the calling of Moses. The thornbush was burning and was not consumed. This typifies us; what are we? We are a thornbush full of thorns. This is the old man. But within this thornbush, there can be the fire of God burning. Who was burning there? God was the fire! That is why He told Moses, “Take off your sandals.” God was there. What does this mean? God can dwell in us! This fire is the fire of resurrection. God told Moses that He was the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. In Matthew 22:31-32, the Lord asked the unbelieving Sadducees, if they had read that God said, “I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob”? He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” Who is this? The resurrected God.

We need to experience this fire of resurrection in our daily living. In the prayer meeting, for example, many times we come in with our feet dragging. We are finished. But when we sit, we might not pray, but we start to say “Amen” and as the saints start to pray, our amens get stronger and stronger. We eventually arrive at the point that we can’t help but say “Amen” to what a brother or a sister is praying. Then at the end of the meeting, we are in resurrection, we are in the fire. The life of resurrection is within us! Saints, my prayer is that in the end, we would love this fire!

I. F. The word of God is a fire that burns us and many of the things in which we have confidence—Jer. 23:29; 5:14; 20:9.

Jeremiah 23:29 says, “Is not My word thus — like fire, declares Jehovah, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?” This word can destroy everything that we have accomplished. Maybe we have a lot of confidence in our education, or maybe in the job that we have until one day the boss calls you into his office and says that your services are not needed any longer. What would you say then? Would you praise the Lord in this circumstance? If not, then you may say that this is your natural concept that is hindering you from saying to the Lord, “Lord, I know that all things work together for the good for those that love you and are called according to your purpose. Lord, that confidence that I had in my job before has now been destroyed so that I might come back and praise You.” That kind of prayer will raise a fire within and there will be a new consecration.

I. G. Those who have a desire to serve God must know that God is a consuming fire that burns and energizes; when God comes to the earth, fire comes to the earth, and when God enters into man, fire enters into man and burns him—Heb. 12:29; Luke 12:49.