

“Putting Our Feet To His Fire”

Ezekiel 36:25-27; Acts 2:42-47

January 25, 2026

The Spirit came once and for all to destroy the enmity between man and God so that those whom he redeems will live a life of passionate devotion to Him and His purposes.

Baptized with the Holy Spirit and Fire

Throughout Scripture, God identifies himself as fire: The fire of truth that burns away lies and the fire of his holiness that burns away impurities before him.

Matthew 3:11 *“I baptize you with water for 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.*

Exodus 3:2,5 *And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. ⁵Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”*

God’s dwelling place, that bush, was holy ground. God’s dwelling place, you and me, is

Acts 2:2-3 *And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.*

The Blueprint for God’s Spirit Filled Church

- **Joel and Ezekiel: 300 years apart with the same message**

Acts 2:17 *And it will come about in the last days God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.*

Ezekiel 26:25-27 ²⁵ *I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

Galatians 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

- **At the birth of the church, God placed his Spirit in them, all of them, and now, all of us!**

Acts 2:42 ⁴² *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

Devoted: continued steadfastly KJV, , Continually devoted, NASB.

Greek: *Proskartereho*: to be earnest toward; to persevere, be constantly diligent; to attend with great care; to adhere closely to; give of self continually; wait on continually.

- Apostles’ Teaching/Doctrine and Fellowship
- The Breaking of Bread(meals and the Lord’s supper) and Prayer (which certainly included worship)

The Apostle’s teaching was essential if the other three directives would be grounded in the Spirit of truth!

Matthew 22:37-39 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

2 Timothy 2:15 Do your best (Endeavor, be diligent, study) to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

If the Lord tells us the greatest commandment is to love him with all of our mind, seems a great way to do that is being devoted to knowing Him through his Word!

Training in Righteousness

➤ **It 'Don't' Come Easy: The 10,000 Hours Rule**

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Hebrews 5:14 ¹⁴But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 ²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Hebrews 12:1-2 since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Our Life, our Coach, Jesus, trains us by the Spirit, though it so often feels like we're training ourselves!

Colossians 3:12-17 Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

We don't need to "Feel" the Spirit to be devoted to the Lord, any more than we have to feel our heartbeat or be aware of walking or breathing to be devoted to our physical health. We, with devotion, walk out what God has worked in. Getting "Holy Ghost goose bumps" is nice, preferred even, but unless the Father has told us not to do something, my devotion to and love for him and to his purposes for his church constrain and compel me (2 Cor. 5:14).

- Russia, 1993
- A cab ride in NYC

In This Corner....

➤ **Let me introduce you to your Competition: YOUR FLESH**

John 3:6 ...that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Galatians 5:16-18¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

Romans 7:23-25 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being,²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

2 Corinthians 11:2 For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. ³ But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

The Entourage Effect

The entourage effect, usually found in the context of medicine, is that isolated ingredients, supplements or treatments, though potentially affective, often need the presence of other ingredients, etc. to reach its or their full healing potential. Similarly, Olympic and other professional athletes have an entourage, an army of others who attend to their eating, sleeping, state of mind, their bodies, schedules, and any other ways necessary to have the athlete in top physical and mental shape to compete. If that's what works best when medical ingredients work together, and physical fitness work together, God has given us a picture that spiritual strength works the same way – we grow stronger when we are bound together.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near

Our devotion to Jesus looks like Acts 2:42-47. Devoted to the apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer. And we NEED TO KNOW that He's put himself in us to give us the power and desire to do so. For the church to be the church we've got to put our feet to His fire that he's put into us by the Holy Spirit. He's empowered us to go. Now we, with our sanctified and being sanctified minds have got to agree with God as to who he has made us! Jesus came filled with the Holy Spirit to then send us with the same Holy Spirit.