

Zeal for His Father's House has Consumed Him

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“The Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and found in the **Temple (hiero)** those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money-changers seated. And when He had made a scourge of small cords, He drove them all out of the Temple (hieron), and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; and He said unto those who sold doves, '**Take these things from here; and do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise.**' And His disciples remembered what was written, '**The zeal for Your House has consumed Me**' (Psalm 69:9). Then the Jews said unto Him, 'What sign do You show to us, seeing that You are doing these things?' Jesus answered and said unto them, 'Destroy **This Temple (naon)**, and in three days I will raise it up.' Then the Jews said, 'For forty six years was this Temple in building, and will You raise it up in three days?' But He spoke of the **Temple (naou) of His Body.**" (John 2:13-21)
(see also Matthew 21:12-13 and Mark 11:15-18 for more context)

Zeal: from the Greek word **zelos** which means: eagerness, zeal; or jealousy, rivalry. To have warmth of feeling for or against, to be zealous or jealous. properly, burning emotion (inner feeling boiling over. Used both a negative and positive context. Zeal embracing, pursuing, or defending anything.

Your: from the Greek word **sou** which means: you, your, yours; in context: "the zeal for **Your (speaking of God the Father) House has consumed Me (speaking of Jesus).**"

House: from the Greek word **oikou** which means: a house, a dwelling place; strictly - an inhabited house; (also the material building.) A household, a families lineage; a nation - as in the House of Jacob. In context: the whole Jewish Temple complex in Jerusalem, but especially the Sanctuary where God dwells and inhabits.

Consumed: from the Greek word **kataphagetai** a verb which means: devour; consume; properly: to eat all the way down until all is consumed. Or of fire - to devour and utterly consume or destroy something. Or of the consumption of the strength of body and mind by strong emotions such as zeal or jealousy. In context: Jesus was dealing with righteous anger against the merchandizing and thievery that was happening in His Father's House of Prayer; and so being consumed with zealous energy Jesus cast them all out of the Temple compound.

Me: from the Greek word **me** which means: me; as in 'myself' - in context: Jesus speaking of Himself and His consuming zeal for for His Father's House - the Temple.

Temple: from the Greek word **hieron** a noun which means: a temple, or specifically the outer courts open to worshippers; – the entire Temple complex: all its enclosures (precincts, courtyards) and the central Sanctuary. In context: the courts of the Temple complex where Jesus cast out the merchants and money-changers. (see verses 14 & 15)

Temple: from the Greek word **naon** which means: a temple or shrine; that part of the Temple where God Himself resides. (From **naos** or **naio**, "to dwell") – properly, a sanctuary; the divine dwelling-place; the place of divine manifestation; usually refers to the Sanctuary - the Jewish Temple proper. But in context Jesus says that He Himself, His body, is the 'Temple' where God dwells!!!! (see verses 19 & 21)

The context in David's Psalm is as follows: "Because for Your sake I have borne reproach; shame has covered my face. I have become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children. **For the zeal of Your House has consumed me**; and the reproaches of those who reproached You have fallen upon me." (Psalm 69:7-9)

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Consider also the following:

"For thus says the LORD unto the eunuchs who keep My sabbaths, and choose the things that please Me, and take hold of My covenant; even unto them will I give in My House, and within My walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off. Also the sons of the stranger, who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, and to love the Name of the LORD, to be His servants, every one who keeps the sabbath from polluting it, and takes hold of My covenant; even them will I bring to My Holy Mountain, and make them joyful in My House of Prayer..." (see Isaiah 56:4-7)

"The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 'Stand in the gate **of the LORD'S House**, and proclaim there this word, and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, all you of Judah, who enter in at these gates to worship the LORD. Thus says the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, 'Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Do not trust in lying words, saying, 'This is the Temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The Temple of the LORD.' ' Will you steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom you know not; and come and stand before Me in This House, which is called by My Name; ... Has This House, which is called by My Name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, even I have seen it, says the LORD! ... But go you now unto My place that **was** in Shiloh, where I set My Name at the first, and see what I did to it for the wickedness of My people Israel." (see Jeremiah 7:1-15)

The context in these passages from Isaiah and Jeremiah is that the the House of God, the Temple, is a sacred House of Prayer which is called by God's Name. God welcomes all upright persons who Love the LORD into His House; but God also sternly warns the people not to pollute or profane His House with sinful and idolatrous behavior and actions. With these prophetic words in mind, consider also the following prophecy which predicts the zeal of Christ Jesus for His Fathers' House:

"Behold, I will send My messenger, and he (speaking of John the Baptist) shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord (speaking of the Messiah Jesus), whom you seek, shall suddenly come to **His Temple**, even the Messenger of the Covenant, whom you delight in. **Behold**, He shall come, says the LORD of Hosts. But who may abide the day of His coming? And who shall stand when He appears? For **He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap**; And He shall sit as **a refiner** and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, so that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness." (Malachi 3:1-3)

But like Shiloh, Jesus prophesied the following concerning the sacred House of God in Jerusalem:

"And Jesus went out, and departed from the Temple; and His disciples came to Him to show Him the buildings of the Temple. And Jesus said unto them, 'Do you not see all of these things? Truly I say unto you, **There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.**'" (Matthew 24:1-2) (see also Luke 19:41-44)

"And when He (Jesus) had come near, He beheld the city (Jerusalem), and wept over it, Saying, 'If you had known, even you, at least in this your day, **the things which make for your peace!** but now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days shall come upon you, when your enemies shall cast an embankment around about you, and surround you all around, and trap you in on every side. And shall level you even to the ground, and your children within you; and they shall not leave in you one stone upon another; because you did not know **the time of your visitation** (of their Messiah Jesus!).'" (Luke 19:41-44)

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These sad, but prophetic words came to pass when the Roman Empire destroyed both the Temple, House of God, and the city of Jerusalem. The city was eventually rebuilt, but the House of God has not been rebuilt. However, a Temple built of stones by the hands of humans is no longer needed as a dwelling place of God. Of a truth, there is a New Temple that Christ Jesus is now zealous for! Consider the following:

“Now therefore you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the **Household of God**; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone**; in Whom the whole building being joined together grows into a Holy Temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built together as a habitation of God in the Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19-22)

“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, so that you may grow by it; If so be you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. And coming to Him as unto a **Living Stone**, rejected indeed by men, **but chosen by God**, and precious; you also, as living stones, are being built up as **a Spiritual House**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Therefore also, it is contained in the scripture, *'Behold, I lay in Zion a Chief Corner Stone (Jesus), elect, precious: and he who believes on Him shall not be disappointed.'* (Isaiah 28:16) Unto you therefore who believe **He is precious**; but unto those who are disobedient, **the Stone (Jesus)** who the builders rejected, **the Same was made the Chief cornerstone**; and a Stone of Stumbling, and a Rock of Offense, even to those who stumble at the word, being disobedient; unto which also they were appointed.” (I Peter 2:2-8)

For no **other** (Temple) **foundation** can a man lay, other than **that** laid, **which is Jesus Christ**. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abides which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Do you not know that **you are the Temple of God**, and that **the Spirit of God dwells in you**? If any man defiles The Temple of God, him shall God destroy; **for the Temple of God is Holy, of which Temple you are.**” (1 Corinthians 3:11-17)(Amen!)

Finally consider this truth from Gods' Word:

"Do you think that the scripture speaks in vain, '**The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealousy (zealously for us)**? But He gives more grace. Therefore it says, '*God resists the proud, **but gives grace to the humble.***'” (James 4:5-6) (quote from Proverbs 3:34)

Zeal for the Father's House has Consumed Jesus

At first, during His 'visitation' – for the Father's House of Prayer – the Temple!
And now, during His ascension at the Right Hand of the Father ...
... for the Household of God - even the Holy Temple of God, of which Temple we are!
We are the Dwelling-place of the Spirit of God the Father Himself!

And with Consuming Zeal Jesus shall forever Keep This Temple clean and undefiled!
Lord Jesus You are the Chief Cornerstone of This New Living Temple!
And as living stones, we are being built up by Yourself, into This Spiritual Temple of God!

All Praise, and Thanksgiving is Yours, now and Forever – Amen!