

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

The Same Zeal

Something we need to know: Jesus doesn't change.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Hebrews 1:10-12 God the Father to the Son [Psalm 102] And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but **you remain**; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But **you are the same**, and your years will have no end."

SAME ALWAYS, PART I → HIS ZEAL AND IT'S GOOD THAT IT'S TRUE! BUT IT'S ALSO A CHALLENGE!

John 2:13-17 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

Remarkable behavior! What he found/he did: *drove out / poured out / overturned...* / he said: "**Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade.**" All the more remarkable when you think about what had just happened!

John 2:1-12 ... there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. ... This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. **It was a miracle: a sign!** And his disciples believed in him. After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days. ??????

"THE LAMB OF GOD, SON OF GOD, KING OF ISRAEL, SON OF MAN"

Then they followed him to Jerusalem and saw **what he really cared about!** "**Zeal for your house will consume me.**"

Psalm 69:9 For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.

Of all the things they might have noticed! [His courage. His conviction. His authority] **HIS ZEAL!**

1. This consuming zeal was not new.

This same interest in his boyhood: **Luke 2:48-49** "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

2. This consuming zeal had been predicted by the prophets.

Isaiah 42:13 The Lord goes out like a mighty man, like a man of war **he stirs up his zeal**; he cries out, he shouts aloud, he shows himself mighty against his foes.

Isaiah 59:17 He put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and **wrapped himself in zeal as a cloak.**

And "the last and the greatest" of the O.T. prophet's also spoke of his zeal: this consuming fire. **Luke 3:16-17** "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

3. This consuming zeal "for God's house" was not for "the house" itself:

NOT the building itself! "**Herod's Temple.**" → Huge; of stone, of imported white marble.

This was **zeal for God the Father.** "My Father's house..."

→ **Ps.119:139** My zeal consumes me, because my foes forget your words.

So it wasn't the temple at all ... what it represented: the people of God.

Zeal for God's people, zeal for God's honour, for the things of God

4. This consuming zeal influenced everything else about him:

Zealous about all that the Father cared about: "every stone in the house"!

And that's why he cared about the wedding wine running out!

It mattered to him because it mattered to people who mattered to him. And that's why he cares about the things that you care about

1 Peter 5:7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

So... **WHAT'S THE SAME:** The Lord Jesus Christ is "on fire" and "eaten alive" with passion for the honor of God.

(O.T.) Consumed **by fire**

(N.T.) Consumed: **eaten up**

5. This consuming zeal did in fact consume him ...

Luke 9:51-53 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.

Mark 10:32-34 And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him...

Luke 12:49-50 I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!

Luke 22:44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. This consuming zeal DID consume him. And we should be glad that it did!

WHAT'S THE GOOD: We will not be _____ by our enemies _____

Malachi 3:6 For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

WHAT'S THE GOOD: We will not be consumed by our enemies or by the wrath of God.

Isaiah 9:6,7 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. **The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.**

Romans 5:9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Hebrews 7:25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

WHAT'S THE CHALLENGE: We must be consumed with this same zeal!

He was zealous for God and the things of God, **and he still is.** He still loves the things that his zeal compelled him to love. He still hates the things that his zeal for God compels him to hate! And so must we! We are called to it!

Romans 12:11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, **serve the Lord.** (Think **Romans 12:1**)

And where we are lacking that zeal, and where we have lost that zeal, the Lord says:

Revelation 3:19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so **be zealous** and repent.

And having said that to a particular church, he says these famous words...

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. → **COMMUNION**

NEXT WEEK: "THE SAME SYMPATHY"

Hebrews 4:14-5:2 [Chris Postma]