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# Key Notes

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## ARE YOU COMBUSTIBLE?

*The god who answers by fire - he is God. (1 Kings 18:24)*

Over and over again in the Bible, God's presence is associated with fire. Whether it is a flaming sword (Gen. 3:24), a burning bush (Ex. 3:2), a fiery coal (Isa. 6:6), a refiner's furnace (Mal. 3:2), tongues of fire (Acts 2:3), or blazing eyes (Rev. 1:14), when God is at work, there is always a burning. Therefore, if your heart is not aflame with passion and zeal for God this morning, there are only two possible explanations. Either God is not present or you are not combustible.

In the Tabernacle, the priests were given a strict command to keep the fire on the altar burning. It must never go out (Lev. 6:13)! There is a lesson here for us today. The same things necessary to keep the fire burning in the Tabernacle are necessary to keep the fire of the Holy Spirit alive and well in our hearts.

1. **Ignition.** Spiritually, there is no such thing as spontaneous combustion. Fire requires an external cause. The flame on the altar was lit by the priest. And because it came from his hand, it was holy fire. Likewise, no human heart will ever burn with holy passion until God himself ignites the flame.
2. **Fuel.** A fire will go out without fuel. Whole burnt offerings of animal sacrifice fueled the flames on the altar in the Tabernacle. Now, Christ has come as a new High Priest and has abolished animal sacrifice forever. But in its place, he demands something else: our very selves. *Offer your bodies as living sacrifices... this is your spiritual act of worship* (Rom. 12:1). God is a consuming fire. I am the fuel.
3. **Ventilation.** Without air, fire goes out. We quench the fire of God when we deprive our hearts of the oxygen that comes from confession, repentance, fellowship, worship and the ministry of the Word. Like a mighty wind, the Spirit fans our hearts into flame... and the flames together become a revival fire sweeping across the land!

The great need of the hour is for men and women ablaze with holy fire. Are you combustible? Let the prayer of William Booth become yours:

God of Elijah, hear our cry: Send the fire!  
To make us fit to live or die, send the fire!  
To burn up every trace of sin,  
To bring the light and glory in,  
The revolution now begin, send the fire!

Pastor Stan