

Our God is a Consuming Fire
Deut 4:24
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show how we should consider God as a consuming fire.

- Intro:
1. God, our God is a jealous God.
 2. He desires for us to obey Him, follow Him, and Him alone.
 3. Considering what He provides for us, it is only right that He wants us to be followers of Him alone.

I. Statements of God's Hatred on Sin.

A. Considering **Heb 10:26-31 & 2 Cor 5:9-11**

1. Hebrews warns us about willful sin (**v.26**) and the punishment of those who do such (**v.31**)
2. Because we know the terror of God's wrath we persuade others to obey the gospel (**2 Cor 5:11**)

B. Considering **Hebrews 12:25,28-29 with Deut 4:24, & Isaiah 33:14**

1. Is there a way to escape after not listening to God? (**v.25**)
2. The answer is no (**v.28-29**).
3. Compare now Hebrews 12 with **Deut 4:24 & Isa 33:14**.

II. Examples of God's Wrath Against Sin

A. Adam & Eve (Genesis 3)

1. God provided a place to live for Adam & Eve, but conditions applied.
2. Some may say that what Adam & Eve did was such a small matter, but God cannot tolerate sin (**Gen 3:16a & 17**).

B. The angels who sinned (**2 Pt 2:4**).

1. God was unwilling to spare even His angels but cast them down.
2. If God showed such actions toward His angels, what will He do to man who sins?

C. The people of Noah's day.

1. Noah was a godly man. However despite his preaching while preparing the ark, no one obeyed. No one repented, no one else was rescued.
2. Jesus also taught that few would be saved and many lost, there is no greater example than those of Noah's time (**Mt 7:21-23**).

D. Nadab & Abihu (**Lev 10:1-2**)

1. Many people think that God would not punish someone just because they disobeyed Him.
2. However, the numerous acts of God in the Bible tell a different story.
3. In **Lev 10:1-2**, these men did what was not authorized by God and they were punished for it. Let us not be fooled. We may not be punished right away today by fire from heaven, but judgment day is coming.

III. The Severity of God in the N.T.

1. Jesus warned of eternal life in heaven or hell.
2. All men are warned to fear God not man.
3. Jesus warned of the wicked being sent to a place of ETERNAL punishment.
4. **Revelation 14:9-11**; warns that ALL the wicked will feel the wrath of God.

IV. Lessons for us today.

1. **We can see the goodness of God, if we are obedient to Him.**
2. **Or, we can see the severity of God, if we choose to disobey Him.**
3. **The choices are clear, and the lesson is simple, but the application is where “the rubber meets the road”.**

Application & Conclusion:

1. **Its time we do more than recognize God’s feelings about sin.**
2. **It’s time we act and repent, or else, God will act, that has been made clear.**
 - a. **Consider what Christ said in Luke 13:1-5.**
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9