



Zeal

FULFILLMENT

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ZEAL - the adrenaline of the kingdom

*"Never be lacking in zeal (SPOUDE), but keep your spiritual fervor (ZEO) serving the Lord."
Romans 12:11 NIV '84*

*"His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal (ZELOS) for Your house will consume me.'
John 2:17 ESV*

*"For zeal (QINAH) for Your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who
reproach You have fallen on me."
Psalm 69:9*

Gk. ZELOS 37 X in N.T. Eager, striving, competition, enthusiasm, admiration

Gk. SPOUDE 12 X in N.T. Earnestness, to strive with urgency, diligence, wholeheartedly

Gk. ZEO 2 X in N.T. To boil with heat

Heb. QINAH 42 X in O.T. Zeal, envy, jealousy, passion

What Zeal is **NOT**

- Fanaticism
- Emotionalism
- Souliness

What Zeal **IS**

- Kingdom ambition
- Holy Spirit adrenaline
- The key to excellence

"The disgrace of the church in the twentieth century is that more zeal is evident among Communists and cultists than among Christians." – William McDonald

Understanding Zeal

1. God is the source of holy zeal.

"The zeal of the Lord of Hosts." Isaiah 37:32

"The Lord goes out like a mighty man, like a man of war He stirs up His zeal." Isaiah 32:14

2. Christ Himself was overtaken by zeal.

"Zeal for Your house will consume me." John 2:17

3. There are some things that only the zeal of God can accomplish through us.

"The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will do this." Isaiah 9:7, 37:32

4. There is such a thing as misguided zeal.

"As to zeal, persecuted of the church." Philippians 3:6

"It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way." Proverbs 19:2

5. The zeal of the Lord will advance Christ's kingdom.

"Of the increase of His government and of His peace there will be no end... the zeal of the Lord of Hosts will do this." Isaiah 9:7

"He put on righteousness as a breastplate, the helmet of salvation on His head; He put on garments of vengeance for clothing, and wrapped Himself in zeal as a cloak." Isaiah 59:17

6. Holy Spirit zeal flows out of the spirit, not the soul.

"Look down from heaven and see, from Your holy and beautiful habitation. Where are Your zeal and Your might? The stirring of Your inner parts and Your compassion are held back from me." Isaiah 63:15

7. Every kingdom leader is zeal-capable.

"Never be lacking in zeal (SPOUDE), but keep your spiritual fervor (ZEO) serving the Lord." Romans 12:11 NIV '84

"A disciple can be forgiven if he does not have great mental ability. He can be forgiven also if he does not display outstanding physical prowess. But no disciple can be excused if he does not have zeal. If his heart is not aflame with a red-hot passion for the Savior, he stands condemned." – William McDonald

Operating in Zeal

1. *Be confident that zeal is part of your identity in Christ.*

“Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can.” – John Wesley

2. *Receive the zeal imparted to you when you are filled with the Holy Spirit.*

3. *Expect zeal to flow out of your new person in Christ—out of your spirit!*

“Take care not to give up your first zeal; beware of cooling in the least degree. You were hot and earnest once; be hot and earnest still, and let the fire which once bunt within you still animate you. Be men of might and vigor, men who serve their God with diligence and zeal.” – Charles Spurgeon

4. *Whatever you do, don't fake it!*

5. *Become a person of one thing.*

“I thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.” Psalm 27:4

“But one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion which will not be taken away from her.” Luke 10:42

“A zealous man in religion is pre-eminently a man of one thing. It is not enough to say that he is earnest, hearty, uncompromising, thorough-going, whole-hearted, fervent in spirit. He sees one thing, he cares for one thing, he lives for one thing, he is swallowed-up in one thing – and that one thing is to please God. Whether he lives—or whether he dies; whether he has health—or whether he has sickness; whether he is rich—or whether he is poor; whether he pleases man—or whether he gives offence; whether he is thought wise—or whether he is thought foolish; whether he gets blame—or whether he gets praise; whether he gets honor, or whether he gets shame—for all this the zealous man cares nothing at all. He burns for one thing—and that one thing is to please God, and to advance God's glory. If he is consumed in the very burning—he is content. He feel that, like a lamp, he is made to burn, and if consumed in burning—he has but done the work for which God appointed him. Such a one will always find a sphere for his zeal. If he cannot preach, and work, and give money—he will cry, and

sigh, and pray. Yes, if he is only a pauper, on a perpetual bed of sickness—he will make the wheels of sin around him drive heavily, by continually interceding against it. If he cannot fight in the valley with Joshua—then he will do the prayer-work of Moses, Aaron, and Hur, on the hill. (Exod. 17:9-13.) If he is cut off from working himself—he will give the Lord no rest until help is raised up from another quarter, and the work is done. This is what I mean when I speak of 'zeal' in religion.” - J.C. Ryle

The world will not be changed by a bunch of dabblers.

Lord Jesus, deliver us from dabbling!

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