

Wisdom Unlocked: The Ways of God

S6 Episode 5 Who Wants God's Consuming Fire?



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Season 6 Theme - God: Misrepresented and Misunderstood

There are aspects of God's character that we don't fully understand. One of those is the description of God as Consuming Fire. That sounds a bit scary, something or someone to be feared. But what does this name of God tell us about Him and what He wants for us?

Definition

Consume - use up, destroy or annihilate; fire can be used as a form of judgment but to purify or refine. It speaks of God's holiness and majesty.

Scripture References

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire Hebrews 12:28-29

"Be careful not to forget the covenant of the Lord your God that he made with you; do not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything the Lord your God has forbidden. For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God" ([Deuteronomy 4:23-24](#)).

"But be assured today that the Lord your God is the one who goes across ahead of you like a devouring fire. He will destroy them; he will subdue them before you. And you will drive them out and annihilate them quickly, as the Lord has promised you" ([Deuteronomy 9:3](#)).

"When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. The priests could not enter the temple of the Lord because the glory of the Lord filled it. When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the Lord above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, 'He is good; his love endures forever'" ([2 Chronicles 7:1-3](#)).

Job 23:10

But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

[Exodus 24:17](#)

The sight of the glory of the LORD *was* like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.

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[Isaiah 30:30](#)

The LORD will cause His glorious voice to be heard,
And show the descent of His arm,
With the indignation of *His* anger
And the flame of a devouring fire,
With scattering, tempest, and hailstones.

I Corinthians 3:10-15

By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

You can learn more about the character of God by watching Dave's Devotionals for free on the Lionshare Leadership Group app. Just download it from the app store and click on that month's devotionals. You can spend two minutes a day reflecting on 101 attributes of God over the course of a year.

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