

I CAME TO SET THE EARTH ON FIRE pdf

1: Luke - GLT - I came to set the earth on fire; and

New International Version "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! New Living Translation "I have come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were already burning!

He demands the impossible from man. A painting, a book, a bench in the shade. A stroll in the biting night. The flush of battle. The majesty of death. Always an eternal meaning, but contained within the precise contour of a moment. That is sufficient and ineffable. Here the world ripens and rounds itself out like a fruit and laden with such divine meaning it falls before the feet of the Eternal. But for our interests he is a danger. It was not wise of him to reveal himself so candidly, for his words sound like open revolt: I have come to cast down fire upon the earth, and what do I desire but that I should blaze high? We could then indulge our applause, "insistent, roaring applause," as the critics say, in gratitude for this unexpected and solemn occasion which has thus and wholly free of charge! But he does not let matters rest there. He sets his death jump up as a model; he lures men from their limits out into the same inevitably deadly adventure. His fire is to burn on in others. Now and then he actually succeeds, like dynamite, in blasting a soul into the air, and far and wide the windows rattle and the foundations of houses quake. Acknowledgement Hans Urs von Balthasar. This article is reprinted with permission from Ignatius Press. The Author Hans Urs von Balthasar was a Swiss theologian and widely considered to be one of the most important Catholic intellectuals and writers of the twentieth century. His works include over a thousand books and articles.

2: I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were by Sister Faustina OCD on Prezi

I came to this book late, having found a copy buried on another's bookshelf. Taking my time with each of the brief chapters, I found myself savoring the author's refreshing, thoughtful without being academic, and very approachable writing style.

The fire Jesus came to bring is the fire of love, the fire of hope. Bringing fire to the earth, doing anything good, is going to run into the opposition of evil. Jesus described the opposition he received as a baptism which would ultimately end in his death. Every attempt at good is attacked in one way or another. Notice also in the Gospel today that attempts to do good will automatically cause division. Jesus said a household of five would be divided, three against two and two against three. The five in the house are the father, mother, son, daughter and daughter-in-law. The daughter-in-law of course! It is interesting to note that the Gospel does not state that unity is the highest goal. Bringing fire to the earth is the highest goal. Standing up for what is right, working for justice and truth are higher aims than unity, and working for those aims will sometimes cause division. Jesus came to bring fire to the earth, the kingdom of God. As a result of it he would receive a baptism of distress, he would be crucified, and there would be division. We can think of many people who had fire in them to do good and they had to undergo a baptism of suffering as a result. For example think of the ways in which these people who received the Nobel Peace Prize suffered: Nelson Mandela imprisoned; Simon Peres in Israel. We think of the fire in politicians in the North of Ireland to bring about a negotiated settlement to the northern problems. Those are dramatic examples of bringing fire and being baptized and experiencing division. But there are everyday examples closer to home. Think of the fire in parents to do the best for their families. Think of the fire in parents with children on drugs to make sure that the problem is solved. I am sure we all have some fire in us to do something good for those around us. They will go along with what is disagreeable to them for the sake of peace. It is interesting that the Gospel today places bringing fire to the earth as a higher aim than pleasing for the sake of peace. That was the beginning of the turn-around in El Salvador. Oscar Romero had been quiet and timid before becoming a bishop. He was 60 years, and not long ordained a bishop, when he protested at the murders. Tommy Lane This homily was delivered when I was engaged in parish ministry in Ireland before joining the faculty of Mount St. More homilies for the Twentieth Sunday Year C.

3: Jesus bringing fire to the earth

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And, even, also, namely. Who, which, what, why. Probably emphatic of tis; an interrogative pronoun, who, which or what. To will, wish, desire, be willing, intend, design. To kindle, set on fire, light. From ana and hapto; to enkindle. The fire which He came to send is the fire of judgment which shall burn up the chaff see Note on Matthew 3: The Son of Man knew that this, with all its terrors, was what He came to work. What other wish or will was right for Him than that it should complete what it had begun, even though it brought not peace, but a sword--not union, but division? Pulpit Commentary Verse The text, so to speak, of the whole discourse was "the strange attraction which riches possess for men, and the palsying effect which this attraction, when yielded to, exercises over the whole life. Lo, my presence will stir up men - you will see this in a way none now dream of; a vast convulsion will rend this people asunder. In the coming days of war and tumult, what have you, my disciples, who will be in the forefront of this movement, - what have you to do with earthly goods? Toss them away from you as useless baggage. That is to say, "How I wish that this fire were already burning! Through all the woe, however, the Redeemer could see, shining as it were through a dark cloud, the unspeakable glory and blessedness of his work. But this fire could not be kindled into a flame until something had happened. The cross must be endured by him; till then his work was not finished; and in his pure human nature - it is with stammering tongue and trembling pen we speak or write here - he felt, we believe, the bitter stinging pain of dread expectation of what was coming. With this onlook he was weighed down, we know, at times; witness especially the Gethsemane agony. He goes on to say - Matthew Henry Commentary No one is left so ignorant as not to know many things to be wrong which he does, and many things to be right which he neglects; therefore all are without excuse in their sin. The bringing in the gospel dispensation would occasion desolations. There was to be a wide publication of the gospel. But before that took place, Christ had a baptism to be baptized with, far different from that of water and the Holy Spirit. He must endure sufferings and death. It agreed not with his plan to preach the gospel more widely, till this baptism was completed.

4: Gospel of Thomas Saying 10 - www.enganchecubano.com

fire--"the higher spiritual element of life which Jesus came to introduce into this earth (compare Matthew), with reference to its mighty effects in quickening all that is akin to it and destroying all that is opposed.

I have cast a fire upon the world, and see, I watch over it until it is ablaze. Visitor Comments This refers to the resurrection. The crucifixion is the spark, and the resurrection allowed him to ensure the spark became a blaze to engulf the world with the message. He watched over the results until he saw that there were sufficient true hearers of his message that its continuance could be assured into the future. When one begins to look inside oneself honestly, a fire is kindled that burns away our fabricated view of self revealing our true nature. This fire is like a sword, cutting away our attachments to things we identify with. Note that there are two clever literary devices here: The ambiguity is intentional. There are two valid interpretations-the gospel will come ablaze with meaning when it is recognized that Jesus wrote it and what he wrote. It will burn the fingers of the worldly, and it will blaze with the glory of God to those who love Jesus. But also, equally true, is that it will set the world ablaze when this is recognized. Jesus was a great literary genius. He was also a very efficient writer. It is scary sometimes but because the farmer is watching we need not be alarmed everything is under control the fire need not cause fear but should be seen as part of greater cycle of planting life. It is attachment to our differences that drove humans from the garden of Eden. The way back is guarded by the flaming sword that cuts those attachments. The two forces of antiquity were strife and love. Love, the golden rule from which all else flows, brings us closer to knowing our unity of spirit, which is seen when we burn away our attachments. A true teacher watches over his projection [monitors] - Thief37 It is also possible that this is a literary reference by the author to Prometheus who brought fire into the world and was chained to rock for his trouble. The canonical version looks to the future: The question is whether in Thomas we have a conflation of the two synoptic versions, or a form of the saying derived from an independent tradition. Grant and David Noel Freedman write: The fire has been ignited, and Jesus keeps the world until it burns up; to be near the fire is to be near Jesus and the kingdom Saying The Hidden Sayings of Jesus, p. In Thomas, the saying appears as a single aphorism, not part of a cluster, and with none of the Christianizing language of the Lukan version. The saying in Thomas is thus probably not dependent on Q or Luke, but represents an independent tradition. Gospel of Thomas Saying

5: "I came to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already kindled!" - ISSCD

Gospel in Life is the resource site for Redeemer Presbyterian Church and Timothy Keller.

Parallel Translations The Amplified Bible I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish that it were already kindled! The Complete Jewish Bible "I have come to set fire to the earth! And how I wish it were already kindled! American Standard Version I came to cast fire upon the earth; and what do I desire, if it is already kindled? Bible in Basic English I came to send a fire on the earth, and it may even now have been lighted. English Revised Version I came to cast fire upon the earth; and what will I, if it is already kindled? Contemporary English Version I came to set fire to the earth, and I wish it were already on fire! English Standard Version "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! Easy-to-Read Version Jesus continued speaking: I wish it were already burning! The Geneva Bible I am come to put fire on the earth, and what is my desire, if it be already kindled? King James Version I am come to send fire on the earth, and what will I, if it be already kindled? Miles Coverdale Bible I am come to kyndle fyre vpo earth, and what wolde I rather, the that it were kyndled allready. New Revised Standard "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! Douay-Rheims Bible I am come to cast fire on the earth. And what will I, but that it be kindled? New Century Version "I came to set fire to the world, and I wish it were already burning! James Murdock Translation of the Peshitta I have come to cast fire on the earth; and I would, that it already burned. Weymouth New Testament "I came to throw fire upon the earth, and what is my desire? Oh that it were even now kindled! Mace New Testament I am come to purify the earth with fire, and how do I wish it were already kindled? Green Literal Translation I came to hurl fire into the earth, and what will I if it already has been lit? New King James "I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! New Living Translation "I have come to bring fire to the earth, and I wish that my task were already completed! King James Version I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? New Life Version "I have come to bring fire down to the earth. I wish it were already started! Hebrew Names Version "I came to throw fire on the ertz. I wish it were already kindled. International Standard Version "I have come to bring fire on earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! New American Standard Version "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled! The Emphasised Bible Fire, came I to cast upon the earth, - and what can I wish, if, already, it hath been, kindled? Revised Standard Version "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled! Tyndale Bible I am come to sende fyre on erth: Updated Bible Version 1. The Webster Bible I am come to send fire on the earth, and what will I, if it is already kindled? World English Bible "I came to throw fire on the earth. Lexham English Bible "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish that it had been kindled already! For to whomever more is given, of him more will be required; and to whom much is entrusted, more will be required of his hand.

6: Paulo Coelho quote: I came to set fire to the earth. And I

Jesus sends His Fire on the earth - today. Chapter 19 of the Acts of the Apostles begins with this account: While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior of the country and came (down) to Ephesus where he found some disciples.

But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed! Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law. You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. As you are going with your adversary to the magistrate, try hard to be reconciled to him on the way, or he may drag you off to the judge, and the judge turn you over to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison. The kindling of this fire was something which Jesus said He was eager to do. The coming of Christ will cause great division within families, driving wedges between those family members between whom we normally find a strong bond. In verses , Jesus speaks specifically to the multitudes, pointing out a very serious hypocrisy. Verses 58 and 59 conclude the chapter by making a very personal and practical application. Reconciliation with their opponent needs to take place prior to standing before the judge. The structure of our passage can thus be summarized: It would seem that He must first undergo a baptism before it would be kindled. But what is that fire which He came to kindle? The answer to this question comes from the Scriptures. Let us first search the Scriptures to see if they speak of fire in any way which relates to the coming of Messiah. He shakes the nations in the sieve of destruction; he places in the jaws of the peoples a bit that leads them astray. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. Who can enter our refuge? I will kindle a FIRE in your forests that will consume everything around you. This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am about to set FIRE to you, and it will consume all your trees, both green and dry. The blazing flame will not be quenched, and every face from south to north will be scorched by it. As the dawn is spread over the mountains, So there has never been anything like it, Nor will there be again after it To the years of many generations. The land is like the garden of Eden before them, But a desolate wilderness behind them, And nothing escapes them. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. But FIRE came down from heaven and devoured them. How can this be? Elsewhere Jesus has clearly stated that He did not come to judge, but to save cf. The answer is that Jesus did come the first time to save men, but for all who reject Him there is no other means of salvation. When He comes again, He will come to judge, especially those who have rejected His salvation. I think the answer is simple—this painful and unpleasant for both God and men, I believe outpouring of wrath is a prerequisite of and preliminary to the establishment of the kingdom of God. In order for the kingdom of God to be established, sinners must be punished and sin eliminated. He is the Prince of Peace, but He will bring division. He promises men life, but He calls on them to give up life. He tells men to lay up treasure in heaven, but they are to give up the pursuit of riches in this life, and to give to the poor. Since the means appear to contradict the ends, we must go about these means by faith, and not by sight. Jesus said that before He cast fire on the earth He had a baptism with which to be baptized. The Israelites had forgotten this. They had neglected or overlooked the sequence of events which was to bring in the kingdom of God. This is what the prophet Amos reminded them: It will be darkness and not light; As when a man flees from a lion, And a bear meets him, Or goes home, leans his hand against the wall, And a snake bites him. While He is the Prince of Peace Isaiah 9: He will cause great division among men, even within families, where the bond of union is the most intimate: History has borne testimony to the fact that the gospel divides men and women, husbands and wives, parents and children, for faith in Christ requires ultimate allegiance to Him. This is how the Pharisees the right wing conservatives of that day and the Sadducees the liberals could join together in rejecting Christ and in opposing Him, and ultimately in orchestrating humanly speaking His death. The division described out in these verses is all within the family, but it also crosses lines of authority. Fathers have authority over sons, as mothers have authority over

daughters. Allegiance to Christ takes precedence over all other authority. An unbelieving father will find it difficult to accept when his son now feels his ultimate responsibility is to obey God and to please Him, putting earthly allegiance and duty on a lower level. Jesus refuses to paint a glorious picture of uninterrupted bliss and pleasure for those who would follow Him. While men can expect forgiveness of sins and the joy of obedience to Him in this life, faith in Him will produce persecution 2 Timothy 3: There will be inestimable joy and pleasure in heaven, but there will also be pain and persecution for Christians on earth. Jesus does not minimize the price of discipleship, because of the magnitude of the prize of discipleship. There is no way that we can avoid pain and suffering. The one who rejects Christ and lives only for pleasure now will suffer eternal torment in hell. It is now popular to talk about a church as a family church. Verses call upon men to think clearly and independently, and to act decisively. In verses 58 and 59 our Lord concludes by challenging His listeners to act quickly on what He is saying: He said to the crowd: Now, Jesus focuses on the hypocrisy of the masses. These words are addressed specifically to the crowds v. Jesus calls them hypocrites. Why is this so? In what way are they hypocritical? A hypocrite is one who acts inconsistently, who does not act as one believes. The people all knew how to judge the future in the light of the present. Jesus illustrated this by showing that they knew how to predict the weather. When a cloud appeared in the west, they quickly concluded that it was going to rain. It only took one cloud, not a whole sky full of them. And this one cloud was sufficient reason for them to immediately conclude that rain was coming. It did not take long deliberation. The conclusion was obvious. The evidence was clear, even though but one cloud. So, too, with a south wind. A southerly wind was sufficient evidence for the Israelite to conclude that it was going to be a hot day. In both cases, the predictions proved true. The cloud from the west produced rain, just as the southerly wind produced heat. The ability to judge evidence and to see its implications was not restricted to the experts. Everyone would come to the same conclusion from the evidence they received. Why, then, could these people, skilled at reaching conclusions about the weather, not come to the conclusion that Jesus was the Messiah, based upon the mountains of evidence which had piled up, all of which conformed perfectly to the predictions of the prophets? They certainly were, but this did not let the masses off the hook. They should have seen the obvious and come to the right conclusion about Jesus, even if their leaders did not. They were guilty of letting their leaders think for them. They should have thought for themselves, Jesus charged. Their leaders were guilty, but so were the followers for following them. Let the crowd look at the evidence and judge rightly. We want to let others be responsible for coming to the right answers. But Jesus is very clear here. The important truths, those which really matter, are self-evident to anyone who will look at the evidence. God has revealed His truth to babes, not scholars Luke Let us study the Word for ourselves and let us believe the self-evident truths which are there, and which are revealed to all men who seek it through the Spirit 1 Corinthians 2: It is in this light that I believe John wrote these words: These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for any one to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him 1 John 2: We are not, by these words, told to be Lone Rangers, neglecting the gift of teaching which God has given to the church, but neither are we to be so dependent upon the teaching of others that we believe whatever we are told. God gives us the Spirit to teach us, and He therefore holds us accountable for our conclusions. The multitudes who heard Jesus thus had the weight of responsibility for the actions placed on themselves.

7: Luke NLT: "I have come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were already burning!"

They say that when Jesus said He came to bring fire on the earth, He was talking about bringing judgment--not the judgment of others but rather His own judgment. It is a judgment that the Messiah will bear for others, not one He will inflict on others.

I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! Is that fire blazing in our own lives? Pope Francis gathers the leaders of ecclesial movements from around the globe in Rome and reminds them of the purpose and mission. The term ecclesial movements is now used to refer to the myriad of movements within the Catholic Church which demonstrate that the fire of which the Lord speaks in this Gospel passage still burns in the heart of His Church. Though these movements have differing charisms spiritual gifts - character - and emphases, they all invite Christians into a life changing personal, transforming encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus Christ. They all proclaim that He has been raised from the dead and is very much alive. In fact, they call us to become sources of that Fire for others, so that all may become consumed by the Love of God. We refer to Pentecost as the birthday of the missionary church for good reason. Their encounter with the Holy Spirit in that Upper Room changed them. They were filled with the same Spirit which raised Jesus from the dead. That Holy Spirit made it possible for them to carry forward in time His ongoing mission. We are the beneficiaries of their fidelity and living faith. We are invited to continue the same mission. We need the same Holy Spirit to do so. The Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to live differently, beginning now. Jesus promised, Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father. In that same chapter we read these words, I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. The account of the first Pentecost tells us: When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. Acts 2 Following this experience they were different. They went forth from their former fear - and forward in living faith. Through them Jesus truly did indeed set the earth on fire. They turned the world upside down with their preaching. The same Holy Spirit is available to you and me. Jesus sends His Fire on the earth - today. Chapter 19 of the Acts of the Apostles begins with this account: While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior of the country and came down to Ephesus where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers? Do we act as though we do not realize there even is a Holy Spirit, still pouring out spiritual gifts and making it possible for us to work miracles and bear spiritual fruit in our own lives? We need to ask the Holy Spirit to come into our lives today - and fill us with his power. We need to be set afire. The fire Jesus promised has consequences. Sometimes it does indeed divide families. The fire consumes all that would lead us away from Gods loving and perfect plan for each one of our lives. The fire purifies, refines and empowers us to become those new creations of which the Apostle Paul wrote. The Fire draws us into communion and participation in His Divine Life and mission. That communion is lived in His Church. He explained, "If I do not go I cannot send the comforter. And when he comes he will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation: But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. However, our culture is not really all that different than the cultures into which the early Christians were sent on mission. It is a lot like the culture which the Christians in Ephesus lived in, the ones who were asked if they had received the Holy Spirit. Those believers needed the Holy Spirit for their lives to flourish and to be fruitful in mission. We do as well. The Second Vatican Council in the Catholic

Church began with a prayer for a New Pentecost, Divine Spirit, renew your wonders in this our age as in a new Pentecost, and grant that your Church, praying perseveringly and insistently with one heart and mind together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and guided by blessed Peter, may increase the reign of the Divine Savior, the reign of truth and justice, the reign of love and peace. Lord, set the earth on fire! Lord, set me on fire! He has long been active at the intersection of faith, values and culture and currently serves as Special Counsel to Liberty Counsel. That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

8: Luke NABRE - "I have come to set the earth on fire" - Bible Gateway

His fire is to burn on in others. Now and then he actually succeeds, like dynamite, in blasting a soul into the air, and far and wide the windows rattle and the foundations of houses quake.

Jesus often preached in places without pews or walls. Luke wrote of a time when He spoke in the market place. Luke says a crowd numbering in the thousands gathered. It was no organized event with ushers, greeters, and clergy present. There was pushing and shoving to get a chance to listen to him; some risked being trampled just to hear him or touch him or be touched by this teacher and healer. I have a baptism to suffer through, and I feel very troubled until it is over. Do you think I came to give peace to the earth? No, I tell you, I came to divide it. When he spoke they said it was blasphemy. Jesus challenged his hearers over and over. He came for a reason, for a "baptism that he had to endure. As he taught Jesus was looking towards Jerusalem, toward the cross where he would be lifted up for the sins of the whole world. Rather he wants to see a transforming fire kindled. Jesus says he wants fire. He spoke words that still divide and challenge us to see the him coming not to approve of the world as is; rather he came to see the world catch fire with the Spirit of the Living God. He came to see you and me on fire with the Spirit. Fire, for the ancients, was an important. They even thought it was a basic element of creation Bauer Greek English Lexicon. Fire was, in the ancient world, key to clearing out the old and bringing in the new. But fire was, and still is, beyond simple human control. We teach our children to keep away from fire fearing that it will harm them. We fear the fire of the Spirit that Jesus wanted kindled when he walked the earth. Eric, a pastor from Jackson Minnesota wrote, We spend so much time trying to fight fires in a forest when the only thing the forest wants is for the fire to burn. Fire clears the old under brush and allows new seeds to pop open so they can grow. I think there are too many firefighters in the church. You never know where it is going to go or what it will do The fire from the old cracking cedar planks was amazing. I cut up the deck into 2 foot squares with a sawzall. Then we stacked them up and stuck a few rags at the bottom to get the fire started. It was a great bonfire. It was full of mice and she just wanted it gone. He wants to see new life rise from the old in all people. He came, "to bring division, not peace. He came not to approve of the way the world works today but to see it completely transformed. His death was whole and total, just like ours in baptism; and his rising to new life was whole total just as we shall rise whole and complete with Jesus on the last day. He wants to see fire that consumes the ungodly parts of each of us because he knows the power of God to make all things new. How do you imagine God? Do you imagine Jesus like this?: Or do you prefer a different image of God from this one revealed in the scripture by Luke. A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. Some one in search of eternal mercy and compassion might imagine God as soft and compassionate. Another desperate for help in this life might imagine God as a judge ready to settle the score once and for all. Others look at God as a big cosmic grandfather with a great beard, a real Teddy Bear who accepts all and looks past our faults. Others imagine God angry and vengeful ready to swoop in and spare the chosen few but unleash judgment on those left behind in the world. He spoke with vision for a world and a people transformed. The real Jesus talked about repentance and he challenged his hearers not only to name their neighbors sin but their own. He came wanting to see fire. Letting the fire of the Holy Spirit loose in the church is risky. God might very well confront our sins. Letting the Word of God lose in our lives is equally risky because the God who meets us in scripture, like the fire of the Spirit, is only contained at our own peril. Friend with a garden house The fire from the deck and the little windmill got pretty big as you can see in the picture. My buddy decided to try and keep it from scorching their tomato plants. We all took turns keeping an eye on the tomato plants because it was just to hot for one person to stay next to the fire all that time. We watched the leaves dry and curl right before our eyes. Slide 8 Jesus wants to see this same kind of fire in our lives. He wants us to let the Spirit of Living God run free. He has a vision of the kingdom of God not as a fairytale but as promise. He came to set the world on fire. But Jesus came to set the earth ablaze. I pray to see the fire of the Holy Spirit at work in this age and in this church.

9: Quote by Paulo Coelho: "I came to set fire to the earth. And I am watching."

I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! Luke NJB) What a powerful and frightening statement! For those gathered around Jesus it was a very disturbing.

Next I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! For those gathered around Jesus it was a very disturbing. Why would it be disturbing? What do these words mean to you? What do you think of when Jesus talks of fire? Why would He wish the earth to be a blaze? Does He mean an actual burning up of the earth? To the people of this time, it would almost always be viewed as the symbol of judgment. In their eyes they felt Jesus regarded the coming of his kingdom as a time of judgment. The Jews firmly believed that God would judge other nations by one standard and themselves by another and that the very fact that a man was a Jew would be enough to absolve him. Maybe he was referring to the fire of the Holy Spirit. You see for all the judgment and wrath that He did talk of, his true message was to bring about a fire in the hearts of men for God. Instead of calling down fire from Heaven to destroy us, Jesus is referring to calling down a fire from Heaven to cleanse our souls, to free us from the bonds and wages of our wrong doings. It is also the fire that starts within each of us, that makes us want to spread the Message of the Gospel to others. Each of us carries the spark of that Fire upon our hearts. We are called by God to pass the igniter of that spark on to others. That igniter is the hope we receive in Christ. So in a sense Jesus does want the whole world consumed by fire. He wants it to be consumed in our awakening to the call from the Holy Spirit. He wants us spread His message to all. So that everybody in the world will not have to experience the fire of the final judgment. Jesus tells us these things to give us a sense of urgency in the manners of the spirit. He also tells us as we take up this cause it will not be easy for those around us. What is it said? No, I tell you, but division. From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law. In fact finding Christ in your life can often time have the opposite affect upon a family. There is a movie called Kingdom Come and in that movie, Whoopi Goldberg plays the matriarch of this strangely dysfunctional family. The pastor is explaining how he has observed her husband during his time in the community. She tells the pastor of a time when she attended a church revival, and was over come by the Holy Spirit. She said that she got saved that night and she was so happy. She came home and told her husband Bud that he needed to go down to that revival and get his soul saved as well. Bud would not hear of it, in fact he forbade her from ever going to another revival. He was very angry with her for giving God control of her life. The point is that often times when we have taken Christ into our lives and are filled with the Spirit. We are transformed in such away that people are unable to recognize who we are any more. For loved ones this can be hard because we already have a set image of who this person is, and how that person fits into the family situation. Or they will want to point out the flaws in the life they have. As a result, they may even attempt to return that person to the life they previously had. This is why Jesus said, I have come to bring division. The Word of God is about the sharing of the truth, it is not about making a compromise in what He has said so that we all can get along. However these divisions and splits can be only temporary, they often lead many to find the life they were so avidly against. Where the division between son and father may have appeared irreparable, a new relationship maybe knitted together.

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