



Zeal

By Robert C. Archer



What is Zeal?

- 1. Zeal is the burning desire to please God, to do His will and to advance His glory in the entire world.**
- 2. It is a desire so strong that when it reigns in a person, it impels them to make any sacrifice for the Master.**
- 3. People who are zealous are preeminently people of one thing - they live for one thing; they have a single focus in life.**



Bible examples

- **Paul**
 - **Acts 20:24**
 - **But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.**



Bible examples

- Paul
 - Phil. 3:13-14
 - **Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**



Bible examples

- **Early Christians**
 - **Acts 28:22**
 - **But we desire to hear from you what you think; for concerning this sect, we know that it is spoken against everywhere.**



Bible examples

- **Jesus**
 - **Jno. 4:34**
 - **Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.”**



Bible Teaching

- **Jesus**
 - **Matt. 6:22-23**
 - **The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!**



True Zeal

- **Must be according to knowledge**
 - **Jews - Rom. 10:2**
 - **For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.**
 - **Saul - Acts 22:3**
 - **I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law, and was zealous toward God as you all are today.**



True Zeal

- **Must be according to knowledge**
 - **Manasseh**
 - **2 Chron. 31:6**
 - **Also he caused his sons to pass through the fire in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom; he practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft and sorcery, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.**



True Zeal

- **Will be generated from true motives**
 - **Not a ‘Party spirit’**
 - **Matt. 13:15**
 - **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.**



True Zeal

- **Will be generated from true motives**
 - **Not from the love of praise**
 - **2 Kgs. 10:16**
 - **Then he said, “Come with me, and see my zeal for the LORD.” So they had him ride in his chariot.**



True Zeal

- **Will be about things according to God's mind**
 - **Our own personal growth and happiness**
 - **1 Cor. 9:27**
 - **But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.**



True Zeal

- **Will be about things according to God's mind**
 - **For the salvation of souls**
 - **Rom. 1:14**
 - **I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise.**



True Zeal

- Will be about things according to God's mind
 - Against evil practices
 - Gal. 2:11
 - Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed



How do we develop this zeal?

- **By focusing upon Jesus**
 - **Heb 12:2**
 - **looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**



How do we develop this zeal?

- **By seeking first the kingdom of God**
 - **Matt. 6:33**
 - **But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**



How do we develop this zeal?

- **By seeking those things above**
 - **Col. 3:1-2**
 - **If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.**