



by Charles Willis





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Written By: *Charles Willis*  
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# The Zeal Of God

1

## Define Zeal

- A. Hebrew - as seen in 2 Kings 19:31
- B. Greek - as seen in Philippians 3:6

## What was God zealous for and why?

- A. Isaiah 9:6–7
- B. Isaiah 37:32
- C. Isaiah 59:17
- D. Ezekiel 5:13
- E. Joel 2:18
- F. Zechariah 1:14; 8:2 (see also Psalm 135:4; Hosea 2:19)

## How is zeal related to jealousy in Scripture?

- A. Deuteronomy 4:24
- B. Psalm 79:5
- C. Compare Psalm 78:58 and 1 Corinthians 10:22.
- D. God says His name is “*jealous*” (Exodus 34:12–14; see also Ezek. 39:25). Try to explain this.
- F. 2 Corinthians 11:2

## What can we learn about God’s zeal (James 4:4–5)?

Try to list 3–4 passages which to you demonstrates God’s zeal for you.

# Serving With Zeal

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## How should our zeal be evidenced in our worship?

- A. John 4:24
- B. Psalm 100:2; Ephesians 5:19
- C. 1 Corinthians 11:23–32
- D. Hebrews 10:25
- E. 1 Timothy 4:13; Nehemiah 8:1–8

## How should zeal be evidenced in our congregation?

- A. Hebrews 10:24
- B. Ephesians 4:3
- C. Romans 15:1
- D. Colossians 3:13
- E. Colossians 4:6

## How should our zeal be evidenced in works?

- A. Galatians 6:10
- B. Hebrews 12:12
- C. 1 Corinthians 15:58

## How should our zeal be evidenced in confessing Christ (Jude 1:3)?

## If zeal is contagious, what are we doing to infect others?

- A. Philippians 4:4
- B. 1 Thessalonians 5:12–22

# Regaining Zeal

9

## Read Haggai 1:2–8.

- A. What were the people guilty of?
- B. What were they told to do and why?

## How do we regain a soft heart?

- A. Ezekiel 11:19; 36:26
- B. Romans 2:4
- C. Luke 24:27, 32
- D. Acts 17:11
- E. James 1:25
- F. Joshua 1:8
- G. What produced their zeal (2 Corinthians 7:11)?

## What part does prayer have in regaining zeal?

- A. Colossians 4:2; Romans 12:12
- B. Ephesians 6:18; 5:20
- C. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

## What is meant by our need to return to our first love (Revelation 2:1–7; 3:16, 19)?

## What changes will have to be made to our priorities?

- A. Acts 19:19
- B. 3 John 11

## What must continue to be our proper mindset (Hebrews 6:1)?

# The Zeal of Jesus

2

*“For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps” 1 Peter 2:21*

For each passage indicate Jesus’ zeal, and how we can follow His example.

**Luke 2:49**

**Matthew 4:23**

**John 2:13–22**

**John 6:35–40**

**Luke 9:51**

**Luke 13:31–33**

**Luke 12:50**

**Matthew 26:42**

# A Zealous People

3

**From Titus 2:14** identify four things Christ has done for us that would cause us to be zealous for good deeds. Identify some of the good deeds.

**Read 2 Peter 1:5–11.** Discuss how this passage speaks of our need for zeal.

**From Colossians 3:23,** how does zeal for God affect our living in this world?

**What is one cause of our zeal (Luke 24:32)?** What similar ways can generate zeal in us?

**What do the following passages teach about our zeal?**

A. Philippians 2:28

B. Romans 8:23, 25

C. Philippians 3:20; 2 Peter 3:14; Luke 12:35–36

D. Philippians 2:2

**Compare zeal with “passions” (Romans 7:5; Galatians 5:24).**

# Losing Zeal

8

**Discuss the meaning of “Lukewarm” (Revelation 3:16) and how this displeases our Lord.**

**Define “Sluggish” from Hebrews 6:12.**

**How does a person become dull of hearing (Hebrews 5:11; Matthew 13:13–15)?**

**In what ways are we to not grow weary?**

A. Galatians 6:9

B. Hebrews 12:3

C. 2 Thessalonians 3:13

**How does neglect impact our zeal?**

A. For the Israelites - Deuteronomy 32:18 (in context)

B. For the Pharisees - Matthew 23:23; Mark 7:8

C. For us - Hebrews 2:3; 13:2; 13:16

**How does a person drift away (Hebrews 2:1)?**

**What causes a person to be hard hearted or stiff necked?**

A. Exodus 7:3; 8:19, 32; 9:7, 12; 10:1, 20, 27

B. Hebrews 4:7; 3:8

C. Acts 7:51

D. What can we do to prevent this?

# Zeal Applied

7

How does Mark 12:30 describe our zeal for God?

What language is used in the following passages to describe the zeal of serving God?

- A. Romans 12:11
- B. Hebrews 11:6
- C. Jeremiah 20:9

What are some evidences of zeal in our life?

- A. Romans 12:12; 1 Corinthians 7:5; Colossians 4:2
- B. 1 Peter 1:22; Romans 12:10
- C. Acts 11:29; Gal. 2:10
- D. 1 Corinthians 9:27
- E. Philippians 3:13-14

What is to be the zeal of an elder (1 Peter 5:2)?

To what extent should we demonstrate zeal?

- A. 1 Corinthians 4:10
- B. Hebrews 11:17
- C. Daniel 3:16-18
- D. 1 John 3:13-16; Revelation 2:10

Why is zeal so important for the Christian (Hebrews 6:11-12)?

# Examples of Zeal (1)

4

For each of these examples provide an application for us as Christians.

David

- A. Psalm 69:7-12
- B. Psalm 119:139-141
- C. 1 Samuel 24:10
- D. 2 Samuel 7:1-3, 12-13; 1 Chronicles 22:1-5; 29:1-5

Elijah

- A. 1 Kings 19:14
- B. 1 Kings 17:1; 1 Kings 18:41-46; James 5:17

Phineas Numbers 25:1-13

## Examples of Zeal (2)

5

For each of these examples provide an application for us as Christians.

### Paul

- A. Philippians 3:6
  
- B. Acts 9:1–2, 20, 28–30
  
- B. Romans 1:15
  
- C. 2 Corinthians 11:2
  
- D. 2 Corinthians 11:21–28, 32–33

**Apollos** Acts 18:24–28

**Macedonians** 2 Corinthians 8:1–5

### Corinthians

- A. 1 Corinthians 13:1–3 yet empty without love
  
- B. 1 Corinthians 7:7
  
- C. 1 Corinthians 14:12
  
- D. 2 Corinthians 7:11
  
- E. 2 Corinthians 9:2

## Zeal According To Knowledge

6

*“For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge” (Romans 10:2).*

**From the context of Romans 10:2, tell how the zeal of the Jews was without knowledge.**

**How is this Jewish lack of knowledge described by Jesus (Mark 7:8)?**

**How is the lack of knowledge described among the Gentiles?**

- A. Romans 1:27
- B. 1 Corinthians 1:21
- C. Galatians 4:8
- D. 1 Thessalonians 4:5
- E. How does this compare with our society?

**How does our society have a zeal for God not in accordance with knowledge?**

**How do some Christians have a zeal for God not in accordance with knowledge?**

**What is the value and purpose of knowledge?**

- A. Proverbs 19:1–2
- B. Proverbs 9:10
- D. Luke 1:77
- E. 1 Timothy 2:4
- F. 2 Peter 2:20
- G. 2 Corinthians 7:9–10