

# Our God is a consuming fire



Hebrews 12:25-29

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⌘ See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more *shall we not escape* if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, “*Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.*” Now this, “*Yet once more,*” indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.

# Introduction



- ❖ The writer of Hebrews urges us to hear the heavenly voice.
- ❖ He points us back to the beginning of the nation of Israel for an example to follow (12:18-24).
- ❖ We are commanded to serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.
- ❖ This is because of the holy nature of God!
- ❖ Too often I fear we approach the worship of God without these necessary attributes.



# Heed these warnings



1 Peter 1:15-16

“but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, because it is written, “*Be holy, for I am holy.*”

Exodus 3:5

“Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground.”

When we come into the presence of God we are treading on holy ground!

Yet once more



Hebrews 12:26

# Yet once more...



- ❧ I shake not only the earth but also heaven.  
Direct quote from Haggai 2:6
- ❧ Solomon's Temple had been destroyed and  
Zerubbabel was in the process of building a new  
Temple in Jerusalem
- ❧ But, there is a spiritual side to the promise as well  
Haggai 2:6-9  
Compare with Hebrews 12:26-28

# Hebrews 12:26-28



- ✧ The present removal of those things that **ARE** being shaken.
- ✧ That the things which **CANNOT** be shaken **MAY** remain.
- ✧ We **ARE** receiving a kingdom which **CANNOT** be shaken.

The mountain that  
burned with fire...



Hebrews 12:18-24



# Exodus 19



## ☞ At Mount Sinai

- Verse 6 “a holy nation”
- Verse 10 “consecrate them...wash their clothes”
- Verse 12 “set bounds...DO NOT GO to the mountain”
- Verse 18 God descended in fire
- Verse 21 “warn the people”
- Verse 22 “priests... consecrate themselves”
- Verse 23 “set bounds...consecrate the mountain”
- Verse 24 only Moses and Aaron allowed on the mountain

# Exodus 20



❧ Verses 2-17 Ten Commandments

❧ Verses 18-21

- Thunder, lightning, sounds, the mountain smoked
- The people trembled and stood afar off
- They asked Moses to speak to God for them
- Moses drew near THE THICK DARKNESS WHERE GOD WAS

# Exodus chapters 21-23



✧ God gave laws for the children of Israel to Moses.

# Exodus 24



- ✧ Israel affirms the covenant (24:1-8)
- ✧ Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu and 70 elders see God (24:9-11)
- ✧ Moses returns to the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights (24:12-18)
- ✧ Exodus chapters 25-31 contain the laws that God gave to Moses during that 40 day period (See 31:18)
- ✧ And Moses came down from the mountain and everyone obeyed God's laws and lived happily ever after...right???



Exodus 32



The Golden Calf

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- ❧ Remember when these events took place.
- ❧ Exodus 32:1-6
- ❧ God's wrath (Exodus 32:7-10)
- ❧ 3,000 died that very day (Exodus 32:28)
- ❧ The Lord plagued the people (Exodus 32:35)
- ❧ Worshipping God is serious business!