

**The Azusa Street Papers Overview – The ‘Nothing Else Matters Campaign’  
Message 23 - September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

The saints at the Azusa Street Mission and other missions worldwide that stemmed from them, had no other priorities in life, than to be baptised with the Holy Spirit and fire and to serve the Lord with Holy Spirit gifts given to operate in as part of the body of Christ, the church. To them, nothing else mattered.

AZUSA PAPERS says;

*“The work at Azusa Mission is growing deeper and more powerful than ever. Praise God. Meetings continue every day with seekers at every service, and the three meetings run very near together. All day meetings on Sunday. Three other Apostolic Faith Missions continue in the city and God's blessing is upon them. The workers from these missions and from suburban towns meet together for conference on Mondays to study the Scriptures and get deeper into the things of God and for conference in the work of the Lord. The spirit of unity, love and power is manifest. Other like missions are being established in a number of towns.”*

This is a picture of revival as a result of allowing nothing else to matter, except being baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire, operating in His gifts as He wills. God has and is calling His saints to be part of what I would call “The Nothing Else Matters Campaign.” These are Christians that refuse to settle for anything less than the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire operating in their lives thru the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The Apostle Paul talks about these gifts in **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**; “4 There are [a]diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works [b]all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of **wisdom** through the Spirit, to another the word of **knowledge** through the same Spirit, 9 to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healings** by [c]the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of **miracles**, to another prophecy, to another **discerning of spirits**, to another **different kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”

You may be saying “that sounds irrational, after all we are not all called to full time ministry”. This is true, but all Christians are called to be Baptized in the Holy Spirit and fire, and operate in one or more of the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11.

John the Baptist says this in **Matthew 3:11**; “11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit [a]and fire.**”

Jesus says this in **Acts 1:4-8**; “4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [a]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

You may be saying to yourself, ‘that sounds like a repeat preacher, we heard that last week, oh and we heard those two scriptures the week before’. Well, you might hear it next week too. Until a Christian is baptised with the Holy Spirit and fire that Jesus is talking about, they will not be able to rap their head around being part of,

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“The Nothing Else Matters Campaign”; the body of believers that are on fire for the Lord, utilizing their gifts of the Holy Spirit without distractions from worldly secular matters, because nothing else matters any more except doing the will of the Lord for their lives. This is not to say that employment, education and careers that provide a living don’t matter, but rather they should not only provide a living for their families, but also be used to help finance the proclamation of the Gospel and building of God’s church through tithes and offerings. This is why so many Christians today are not baptised in the Holy Spirit and fire and are not operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and not attending church, simply because they’ve allowed employment, education, family, recreation, sports, entertainment, relationships etc., to matter more than obeying Jesus. Christians would be surprised to see that what matters so much to them, doesn’t matter as much to Jesus if it’s keeping them from being Baptized with the Holy Spirit and a fire and operating in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as part of the body of Christ, the church.

AZUSA PAPERS says;

*“In Des Moines. 1624 Oakland Ave., Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 21. – God is working here. Seven or eight are speaking in tongues and others awakened to the truth. I myself have received the gift and speak in many different tongues. Can interpret the same. The burden of the Spirit seems to be the blindness of the people, the soon coming of the Lord, the awful judgments that are coming, and to prepare messengers and a bride for His coming. The mission is becoming a center for the hungry ones and too small to accommodate the people. God bless you all. We have had no teaching outside, except our own close walk with God and getting down, down, down before Him and proving Him who never fails. Praise His name. -- Yours in the rapture, E.C. Ladd.”*

**Revelation 3:14-22** says this about the lukewarm church; “14 And to the [a]angel of the church [b]of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: 15 “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither [c]cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17 Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— 18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.[d] Therefore be [e]zealous and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. 22 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ ’ ”

You notice that Jesus puts a condition on obtaining salvation, and that is not being a lukewarm Christian that allows everything to matter more than obeying Jesus in everything. Salvation is conditional upon your obedience to Jesus. You don’t want to be lukewarm, Christian.

In **Matthew 28:16-20**, Jesus gives the great commission, “16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. 17 When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go [a]therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” [b]Amen.”**

If the baptism of the Holy Spirit was only meant for the disciples, Jesus would not have said this. He would have clarified to them to not teach on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire and speaking in tongues. Jesus clearly tells them to teach everything that He commanded them. Nothing else should matter more to a Christian

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than obeying Jesus' last commandment found in **Acts 1:4-5** to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and fire and operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit as laid out in **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**. The whole Christian walk and the birth of the church stems from these scriptures; nothing else should matter. Nothing should get in the way of you getting baptized in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, and operating in the gifts of the Spirit.

**Acts 1:4-5** says; "*4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be **baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now."*

Didn't we just read in Matthew 28:16-20; "...**20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.**" If Jesus just commanded them in Acts 1:4-5 to not depart from Jerusalem and to be baptized in the Holy Spirit, then that is for you too. Whatever Jesus commanded, you're to do.

Without the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire on a Christians life, they will ultimately become lukewarm and allow everything else to matter, more than obeying Jesus in everything, and will backslide in one way or another because they don't have the power of the Holy Spirit nor the Holy Spirit gifts in operation in their lives.

When nothing else matters more than obeying Jesus, it can have the appearance of irresponsible heavenly minded fanaticism, but in realty, it's the exact opposite, because when you seek the Kingdom of Heaven first, and all its righteousness, everything that you have need of will be added to you.

Jesus Himself said this in **Matthew 6:25-34**; "*25 Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 Which of you by worrying can add one [a]cubit to his [b]stature? 28 "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; 29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not [c]arrayed like one of these. 30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."*

In essence what Jesus is saying is that nothing else matters, all the things that you think matter so much, doesn't matter as much as obeying all His commands.

So one could say something like this in ad-lib, (not changing the scriptures); Seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues first, then all that really matters for your life will be added to you, and your needs will be met according to His glory and riches, and on top of all this He gives you gifts of the Holy Spirit as He wills. This sounds like a very good deal.

AZUSA PAPERS says;

*"Bro. Paul says, "He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself." I tell you I would rather speak in tongues when I want to speak for my own edification. I would rather quit using my own tongue and speak in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. There is a power, a glory, bless God, that comes down from heaven that passes all understanding. No wonder the Corinthian church all wanted to speak in tongues edifying themselves. Paul wrote them telling them how to use those precious gifts. It was just as when we first received the gift, we all wanted to speak at once. Paul says, "Let him pray that he may interpret." Greater is he that*

*prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret." So many prayed and received the interpretation. On the day of Pentecost, they were immersed into the Holy Spirit. The Spirit "filled all the room where they were sitting." It is one thing to be filled as a glass filled with water and another thing to be submerged as when you plunge the glass out of sight into the fountain."*

Tongues and interpretation of tongues are only two of nine gifts that the Holy Spirit gives to Christians that are baptized in the Holy Spirit and fire, and this is why it's so important for a Christian to be in a Holy Spirit filled Church and operate in the gifts that they are given for the edification of the Church body.

So, what could possibly matter more than being filled with the Holy Spirit and fire and operating in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as he wills to give them to you and other members of the Church Body? Could the reason be that so many Christians today attend churches that don't preach the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire, be that they don't want to give up what they think matters the most, and being nominal allows them to straddle the fence with one foot in the world and one foot in the church with no accountability to obeying Jesus' last command found in Acts 1:4-8? There are costs to following Christ and Christians will be surprised to see in the following scriptures that what seems to matter most to them doesn't matter to Jesus if it is affecting His Lordship over their lives.

Jesus says in **Luke 14:25-33** (Amplified Bible); "25 Now large crowds were going along with Jesus; and He turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to Me, and does not [[a](#)]hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life [in the sense of indifference to or relative disregard for them in comparison with his attitude toward God]—he cannot be My disciple. 27 Whoever does not carry his own cross [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow after Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me] cannot be My disciple. 28 For which one of you, when he wants to build a watchtower [for his guards], does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to finish it? 29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is unable to finish [the building], all who see it will begin to ridicule him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish!' 31 Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one who is coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else [if he feels he is not powerful enough], while the other [king] is still a far distance away, he sends an envoy and asks for terms of peace. 33 So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not [carefully consider the cost and then for My sake] [[b](#)]give up all his own possessions."

In **Mark 8:34-38** (Amplified Bible), Jesus also says; "34 Jesus called the crowd together with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to follow Me [as My disciple], he must deny himself [set aside selfish interests], and [[a](#)]take up his cross [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me]. 35 For whoever wishes to save his life [in this world] will [eventually] lose it [through death], but whoever loses his life [in this world] for My sake and the gospel's will save it [from the consequences of sin and separation from God]. 36 For what does it benefit a man to gain the whole world [with all its pleasures], and forfeit his soul? 37 For what will a man give in exchange for his soul and eternal life [in God's kingdom]? 38 For whoever is ashamed [here and now] of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

You could also say together with, 'to gain the whole world (with all it's pleasures),' to gain the whole world with all that matters to them. If what matters to you today gets in the way of denying yourself of worldly



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pleasures that are actually leading you to a point where you're denying Jesus, it doesn't look like it's going to go well with you in the end. Does selfish ambition matter so much in the light of being Jesus' disciple?

**Matthew 19:16-22** in the Amplified Bible says this about the rich young ruler; *"16 And someone came to Him and said, "Teacher, what [essentially] good thing shall I do to obtain eternal life [that is, eternal salvation in the Messiah's kingdom]?" 17 Jesus answered, "Why are you asking Me about what is [essentially] good? There is only One who is [essentially] good; but if you wish to enter into eternal life, keep the commandments." 18 He said to Jesus, "Which commandments?" And Jesus answered, "You shall not commit murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not give false testimony; 19 Honor your father and mother; and love your neighbor as yourself" [that is, unselfishly seek the best or higher good for others]. 20 The young man said to Him, "I have kept all these things [from my youth]; what do I still lack?" 21 Jesus answered him, "If you wish to be perfect [that is, have the spiritual maturity that accompanies godly character with no moral or ethical deficiencies], go and sell what you have and give [the money] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me [becoming My disciple, believing and trusting in Me and walking the same path of life that I walk]." 22 But when the young man heard this, he left grieving and distressed, for he owned much property and had many possessions [which he treasured more than his relationship with God]."*

That's the point right there, if you're possessions are of greater value than obeying God, it shows that what is in your heart matters more than obedience to Jesus. This man's treasures mattered more than his obeying Jesus as Lord of his life. Do your treasures matter more than being baptized in the Holy Spirit and fire today and to be an active member of the body of Christ? Think about it.

Jesus even shows that your relationship with Him is to matter more...than your relationship with your family. It's not that family isn't important because He created the family, but if they get in the way of His Lordship in your life, it does matter. **Matthew 10:34-39** (Amplified Bible); *"34 "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword [of division between belief and unbelief]. 35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; 36 and a man's enemies will be the members of his [own] household [when one believes and another does not]. 37 "[a]He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 And he who does not take his [b]cross [expressing a willingness to endure whatever may come] and follow Me [believing in Me, conforming to My example in living and, if need be, suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in Me] is not worthy of Me. 39 Whoever finds his life [in this world] will [eventually] lose it [through death], and whoever loses his life [in this world] for My sake will find it [that is, life with Me for all eternity]."*

So, what could possibly matter more to you, Christian, than being filled with the Holy Spirit and fire and to operate in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as He wills?