“PASSION”

Text: Matt. 5:6 - “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.”

Where is the hunger and thirst after righteousness today in our nation?

More and more Christians are participating in worldly activities such as: alcoholic beverages, smoking, profanity, watching sensual and violent movies, inappropriate dress attire, irregular church attendance, and lack of daily devotions.

These reasons and more, are some outward manifestations and road blocks that hinder Christians from experiencing a passion for God.

When it comes right down to it, many who profess to be saved, really aren’t.

I Peter 4:18 - “And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

It’s not for us to judge others. Only God knows the heart. We can judge the fruit. Matthew 7:7-20 explains this point. Verse #20 - “Wherefore, by their fruits ye shall know them.”

If we look further into the last verses at the end of this chapter, we see the foundation is like a root of a plant or tree. The part we really don’t see, is the most important. That’s what we fail to see most of the time. It’s the necessary ingredient to our success. How is the foundation of your heart? Your desires are definitely connected to your foundation. (See: Matt. 7:24-27)

When we genuinely become born again, we should immediately notice many of our desires changing. At the moment of our conversion, the Holy Spirit comes to
live inside of us. He leads and guides us into all truth.

II Cor. 5:17 - “...old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new.”

Genuine conversion will be evident to us and others. This does not mean we are sinless, but we are more sensitive to the spirit world and repent quickly whenever we fall into sin.

Whenever sinful pleasures begin ensnaring at our heart and we delight in partaking of it’s evil trappings, we are on dangerous ground.

Once the barrier is broken, without repentance, conviction (from the Holy Spirit), becomes weaker and weaker every time the Christian indulges.

Then the moment eventually comes when all conviction is gone. So is the passion to live for Christ and please Him.

John 8:29 - “For I do always those things that please Him.” Really? Can most so called, “Christians” truly say that verse in John 8:29, with a deep love and passion for our Lord?

Matthew 12:34 is a sober verse to think about. “For they loved the praises of men, more than the praises of God.”

Refusing to yield to temptation is one of the keys to keeping passion in the believer’s heart.

I Cor. 10:13 absolutely confirms that God will always “make a way of escape, so that you may be able to bear it.”
If heaven and hell were real to every believer’s heart, more Christians would live differently. The truth is, sports, television, movies and social activities with friends, has a greater “pull” on most believers than the convicting power of the Holy Spirit.

God REWARDS those who “diligently seek Him.” What does diligently mean? PASSION! God rewards passionate believers. (See: Psalms 84:11)

The best reward is the spiritual. A closer walk with God that includes: His wisdom, discernment, love and peace. All of these far outweighs what the world can offer!

When the redeeming work of the cross is not on the forefront of our hearts, we are more susceptible to temptation. Jesus has paid the price on Calvary’s cross to REDEEM us from the curse, sin and passions of this world! His perfect, sinless blood was shed so we can be forgiven and receive an eternal inheritance to rule and reign with Him forever. Now, right now, in this existing earthly life, we can have the VICTORY over the devil’s power to steal, kill and destroy. Why? Because of the work Jesus did on the cross. He not only died for us, but rose again. We have the victory NOW over ANYTHING that would come against us. If we would only BELIEVE and APPLY OUR FAITH in the blood that was shed on the cross.

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BIBLE EXAMPLES OF PASSIONATE MEN:

1) Stephen. (Acts 6:1-10)

There are many more examples to study in God’s Word. These three, Stephen, Peter and Paul, all had two common denominators: 1) Their love for Christ that was relentless.
2) Their love for souls. To win the lost.

Witnessing and leading souls to Jesus was their passion! Most of all, their personal relationship that was daily spent in His presence, in prayer.

Passionate Christians are humble people. Servants. Hungry for more of God in their lives and willing to surrender anything for that closer walk.

How to be a passionate Christian.

1) Be Born Again. (Ro. 10:9,10 & 13)


3) Have Devotions Everyday. (Time With God in The Word & Prayer) (I Thess. 5:17 / Col. 3:16 / Joshua 1:8)

4) Avoid Sin As Much As Possible. (Don’t Go To Places That Would Tempt You To Sin). (I Thess. 5:22/ Eph. 5:11)

5) Repent Daily. (I John 1:9)
6) Give. (Think Of Others). (Luke 6:38)

7) Stay Surrendered. (Keep God FIRST).
   (Matthew 6:33 / Deut. 6:5 /
   Luke 10:27)

8) Witness. (Don’t Be Ashamed).
   (Mark 16:15)

9) Go Regularly To Church. (Heb. 10:25/
   Psalms 92:13)

10) Serve. (In & Out Of The Church).
    (Gal. 5:13 / Col. 3:17 & 24)

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