

The Fiery God: Refiner's Fire

Malachi 3: 2 But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. 3 **He will sit as a refiner** and purifier of silver; **he will purify** the Levites and refine them like gold and silver.

1 Peter 4: 12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the **fiery ordeal** that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. **13** But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

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The refining fire blesses by
consuming you.

The initial purpose of refining
fire

is to bring revelation.

1 Corinthians 3: 2 If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13 their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be **revealed with fire**, and **the fire will test the quality** of each person's work.

Matthew 16: 21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Matthew 16: 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan!”

Peter's refining fire revealed

He wanted the crown without the
cross.

If you want to be like Christ,

you cannot take comfort in the
couch.

John 18: 18 It was cold, and the servants and officials **stood around a fire** they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

Mark 14: 68 But he denied it

Mark 14: 70 Again he denied it

Mark 14: 71 He began to call down curses,
and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man

Mark 14: Then Peter remembered the word
Jesus had spoken to him...And he broke
down and wept.

Revelation 2: 4 You have forsaken the love
you had **at first**. **5** Consider how far you have
fallen!

Peter's real fire:

Would he allow his failure to
destroy his faith?

John 21: Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee...³ “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them...

John 21: 7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

John 21: 9 When they landed, they saw a fire of **burning coals** there with fish on it, and some bread.

God's refining fire:

You endure it, but Christ
completes it.

As you endure the flames, the only
thing Christ wants to know:

Do you love me?

The overall purpose of refining
fire is to
discover and proclaim your
love for Christ.

We don't persevere to get an 'all
clear'.

We persevere to reverse.

Hosea 6: “Come, let us return to the Lord.

He has torn us to pieces

but he will heal us;

he has injured us

but he will bind up our wounds.

2 After two days he will revive us;

on the third day he will restore us,

that we may live in his presence.

One Last Thought:

Your refinement has prepared
you to “feed the sheep”.

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