## Speaking and Shaking and Consuming - Hebrews 12:25-29

- "When God brought the Israelites out of Egypt, He did not wait until they were on the brink of entering the promised land before He put before them what the real goal of redemption was. He Himself came to meet them in the desert. Stationing Himself in all His majesty on Mt Sinai, He explained to Israel that He had carried them on eagle's wings and brought them to Himself (Exodus 19:4). He Himself was the goal. There and then He offered them the awesome glory of entering a covenant relationship with Him. There and then they had to decide their response. God was speaking to them. They had to reply. Decision could not be deferred." David Gooding Commentary
- "Some fear is bad. Neurotic fears that stem from a wounded and disturbed personality are obviously bad and unhealthy. So is fear that springs from a concept of God as a cruel tyrant. Discover the reality of the love of God, and it will drive out that fear (1 John 4:17-18). But not all fear is bad. Fear mechanisms within us enable us instinctively to anticipate real danger and avoid it; and give us the extra strength to successfully run away when disaster threatens. They are common to bird, animal and man. They are a gift of a wise and loving Creator. And there are things which it is healthy to fear: damaging a child for instance, or breaking a loved one's heart. Supreme among these things is the possibility of incurring the displeasure and wrath of God." David Gooding Commentary
- "Although earthquakes are prophesied to come, the prophet is most likely using a metaphoric term for the world's systems (finance, military, governments, religious, etc.). The message of the Gospel has shaken the world's foundations as it includes an unshakeable kingdom rising on the earth. Kings of the earth have placed their crowns down before the cross of a Man who was crucified as a common criminal. The power of the Gospel is still shaking the world." TPT Commentary

**Daniel 7:18** But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.

## **Consuming Fire**

**Deuteronomy 4:24** For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

**Deuteronomy 9:3** Therefore understand today that the Lord your God is He who goes over before you as a consuming fire.

## <u>Refining</u>

Psalm 66:10 For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined.

**Isaiah 48:10** Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. **Zechariah 13:9** I will bring the one-third through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The Lord is my God.' "

**Malachai 3:2-3** "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like launderers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the Lord an offering in righteousness.

**1 Corinthians 3:11-15** For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

• "Wood, hay, and straw are emblems of the works of the flesh, the building materials of men, not of God. They grow up from the ground, which God cursed (Gen. 3:17). It is both quality and durability that God commends. Fire will cause the better material to glow brighter, but the inferior material will be consumed. How we build and what we build matters to God. Note that it is possible to build on the true foundation of Christ but with wrong materials. We need God's work done in God's way." TPT Commentary