THE BURNING HEART

"Did not our heart burn within us?" Luke 24:32

We need to learn this secret of the burning heart. Suddenly Jesus appears to us, the fires are kindled, we have wonderful visions, then we have to learn to keep the secret of the burning heart that will go through anything. It is the dull, bald, dreary, commonplace day, with commonplace duties and people, that kills the burning heart unless we have learned the secret of abiding in Jesus.

Much of our distress as Christians comes not because of sin, but because we are ignorant of the laws of our own nature. For instance, the only test as to whether we ought to allow an emotion to have its way is to see what the outcome of the emotion will be. Push it to its logical conclusion, and if the outcome is something God would condemn, allow it no more way. But if it be an emotion kindled by the Spirit of God and you do not let that emotion have its right issue in your life, it will react on a lower level. That is the way sentimentalists are made. The higher the emotion is, the deeper the degradation of the heart will be, if it is not worked out on its proper level. If the Spirit of God has stirred you, make as many things inevitable as possible, let the consequences be what they will. We cannot stay on the mount of transfiguration, but we must obey the light we received there; we must act it out. When God gives a vision, transact business on that line, no matter what it costs.

"We cannot kindle when we will
The fire which in the heart resides,
The spirit bloweth and is still,
In mystery our soul abides;
But tasks in hours of insight will
Can be through hours of gloom fulfill'd."

Re: THE BURNING HEART by Oswald Chambers - posted by sojourner7, on: 2010/3/22 13:59

"And they said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the scriptures to us??"

LUKE 24:32

Within the sacred heart burns a hunger for the truth, a longing for righteousness, and a passion for the kingdom of GOD.

E. G. WHITE

Re: THE BURNING HEART by Oswald Chambers - posted by ccchhhrriiisss, on: 2010/3/22 14:13

Hi Greg...

This is wonderful! I was pondering these things recently. I was in a telephone conversation with a brother about this two days ago. We were discussing how a person can know that they sincerely desire the Lord.

I explained to this brother that my heart burns with desire to be with Jesus. When I was at school...or am at work...I just can't wait to spend time alone with God. However, I can still fellowship with Christ in prayer no matter where I go. I can sit at my desk and feel my "heart burn within me" as I pour my heart out to Christ in silence. This is not an affirmation or a silly "burning in the bosom" (ala Mormonism). Rather, it is a hunger that can only be quenched by spending time with the Lord of all Creation!
My wife once asked me why I like to listen to messages from men like Leonard Ravenhill. I thought about it for a while. I told her that I feel a burning heart that makes me hungrier for more of the Lord when I hear those men speak. I have heard preachers speak who really did nothing to make my heart ache with hunger for Christ. Then, there are ministers whose words seem to make me long for secret prayer time and worship. I can't think of a Leonard Ravenhill message that made my heart feel unmolested in regard to longing to know Jesus more.

Thank you for sharing it, brother!