



November 19, 2023

The Very Last Penny

Luke 12:49-59

The Meaning of Casting Down Fire

Connected to his upcoming suffering (baptism) on the cross: **verse 50**

Something that would create division: **verses 51-53**

Where we draw our metaphors from

A survey of fire-falling in the OT

Fire-Falling as Judgment

Sodom and Gomorrah: **Genesis 19:24**

The Captains and their fifties: **2 Kings 1**

Fire as judgment in the prophets: e.g. **Isaiah 66:15-16**

Fire-Falling as Confirmation

The acceptance of Aaron the High Priest's first sacrifices: **Leviticus 9:1-24**

David builds the first altar on Mount Moriah: **1 Chronicles 21:18-27**

Solomon dedicates the temple: **2 Chronicles 7:1-3**

Fire-Falling as Confirmation and Judgement Together

Moses' confrontation with Korah, Dathan, and Abiram: **Numbers 16: 1-35**

Elijah's duel with the priests of Baal on Mt. Carmel: **1 Kings 18:20-39**

"The Lord, He is God": **39**

The Cross/Resurrection as the Fire that Reveals Jesus as True God

I came to give my life a ransom for many: **Mark 10:45**; When I am lifted up: **John 12:32**;

All that the cross/resurrection reveal Jesus to be (see reverse side)

The Centurion's declaration: "Surely this was the Son of God": **Mark 15:9**

Israel is rejecting Jesus as their long-awaited Messiah: see **Luke 13:5,34-35**

The scandal of the cross becomes the dividing point of all history

The Cross as the Fire that Initiates Judgment

Throwing Down the Gauntlet: a choice must be made

Reading the weather but unable to read the signs of the Messiah: **54-57**

Pay now or pay later: there is no avoiding having to pay the last penny: **58-59**

There are no shortcuts around the stumbling block become a mountain: **Matthew 21:14, Daniel 2:31ff**

Every tongue confesses in heaven, on earth, and under the earth: **Philippians 2:10-11**

No one can have Jesus on their own terms, the living fire before whom all fall: see **Revelation 1:14-16**

"Who do you say that I am?" **Matthew 16:13**; Here and here alone is the dividing point

On the cross and in the resurrection (the “baptism” of Jesus’ sufferings), Jesus is revealed as:

- Jesus as God
- Jesus as the humble God Who loves the world to the ultimate degree
- Jesus as the prophesied Messiah fulfilling the Old Testament down to jot and tittle
- Jesus as God who directly enters into the suffering of His people
- Jesus as God Who is utterly opposed to ALL that is of the species of death and evil
- Jesus as the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world
- Jesus as the source of Life
- Jesus as the Light of the World
- Jesus as the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep
- Jesus as the Firstborn from the Dead
- Jesus as the One who holds the keys to death and hades
- Jesus as the way, the truth, the life

Who can accept that this humiliated, disfigured, suffering, weak, defeated man, buried, rising from the dead on the third day, is the divine King of Kings and Lord of Lords through Whom all things were made and for Him all things exist?