

John 2:13-17



**WHAT
CONSUMES
YOU?**

WHAT CONSUMES YOU?

Work?

- Work is a good thing from God, and commanded –
2 Thessalonians 3:6-12; 1 Timothy 5:8; Ecclesiastes 5:18-20
- However, work should not consume us – *Ecclesiastes 2:17-23;*
James 4:13-17

WHAT CONSUMES YOU?

Work? Education?

- Education, wisdom, and knowledge have value – *Ecclesiastes 2:13; 7:11-12; 9:16-18*
- However, it is also vain – *Ecclesiastes 2:12-16; 12:12*

WHAT CONSUMES YOU?

Work? Education? Worry?

- There are many things to worry about – *Matthew 6:25, 31*
- Worry is overwhelming – *Matthew 6:34*
- Worry accomplishes nothing – *Matthew 6:27*

WHAT CONSUMES YOU?

Work? Education? Worry? Liberties/Opinions/Indifferent Matter?

- Liberties should not become our master – *1 Corinthians 6:12*
- These matters have nothing to do with pleasing God –
Romans 14:1-4, 17; 1 Corinthians 8:8; Galatians 6:15
- Being consumed by these matters leads to contention –
James 4:11-12

WHAT SHOULD CONSUME YOU?

Zeal for God's Will

- Jesus' consuming zeal was for His Father's will – *John 2:16-17;*
Matthew 21:13
- From early on to the end of His life – *Luke 2:49; Matthew 26:39*

WHAT SHOULD CONSUME YOU?

Zeal for God's Will

- God's house now – *1 Timothy 3:15* – church of God, pillar and ground of the truth.
- Zeal for matters pertaining to the church – *Romans 12:4-6, 11*
- Zeal for matters pertaining to the truth – *Psalms 119:97* (meditation); *2 Timothy 2:15* (study); *Jude 3* (defending); *Matthew 28:18-20* (evangelizing/teaching)

WHAT SHOULD CONSUME YOU?

The nature of this consuming zeal (*cf. John 2:13-17*): Informed

- Jesus' zeal came from a knowledge of God's will – *John 2:16*;
Matthew 21:13
- It starts with the content of the heart – *Proverbs 4:23*;
Mark 7:20-23
- Zeal for good things – *Galatians 4:17-20*
- Zeal without knowledge is destructive – *Romans 10:2*

WHAT SHOULD CONSUME YOU?

The nature of this consuming zeal (*cf. John 2:13-17*):

Informed, Controlled

- Jesus' actions were deliberate and justified – *John 2:14-17*
- Consuming zeal without an infallible standard will be out of line – *John 16:2-3*
- Consuming zeal for the things of God will cause us to alter our decisions accordingly – *1 Corinthians 8:9-13; 9:19-23; 2 Corinthians 5:14* (NASB)

WHAT SHOULD CONSUME YOU?

The nature of this consuming zeal (*cf. John 2:13-17*):
Informed, Controlled, Active

- Jesus did not ignore irreverence, but addressed it – *John 2:14-17*
- His time, resources, and energy were taken by this zeal – *John 9:4-5*
- Such zeal is circumspect, and takes advantage of opportunities to further God's will – *Ephesians 5:15-17*

WHAT SHOULD CONSUME YOU?

The nature of this consuming zeal (*cf. John 2:13-17*):
Informed, Controlled, Active, Persistent

- Jesus cleansed the temple more than once – *Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-19; Luke 19:45-46* – at beginning and end of ministry.
- Some are initially zealous, but fade due to adversity – *Matthew 13:20-21*
- Some have their zeal until the world entices them – *2 Timothy 4:10*
- Some let the fire die out over time – *Revelation 2:2-5*

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