



Holy Fire or Strange Fire? When Judgment Begins at the House of God | KIB 507

Kingdom Intelligence Briefing | 10/25/2025

1. Judgment Starts in the House of God

1 Peter 4:17 (ESV)

17 For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Judgment: Strongs G#2917 κρίμα krima {kree'-mah}

Meaning: 1) a decree, judgments 2) judgment 2a) condemnation of wrong, the decision (whether severe or mild) which one passes on the faults of others 2b) in a forensic sense 2b1) the sentence of a judge 2b2) the punishment with which one is sentenced 2b3) condemnatory sentence, penal judgment, sentence 3) a matter to be judicially decided, a lawsuit, a case in court. ¹

Judgment can come in several ways:

1. We judge ourselves based on God's Word and return to the ways of God.
2. God allows persecution to come on the Church to purify it.

¹ Strong's Enhanced Lexicon. BibleWorks for Windows 7.0. BibleWorks, LLC, Norfolk, VA. Copyright © 2006.

3. God directly judges the Church so that the fear of God would be re-established in the Body.

2. Strange Fire in the Bible

Nadab and Abihu offer strange fire in the censer to the LORD – Lev. 10:1-3

In their drunken state, they offered fire that did not originate with God at the altar of God.

Strange: Strongs # H2114 zuwr {zoor} ²

Meaning: 1) to be strange, be a stranger 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to become estranged 1a2) strange, another, stranger, foreigner, an enemy (participle) 1a3) loathsome (of breath) (participle) 1a4) **strange woman, prostitute, harlot** (meton) 1b) (Niphal) to be estranged 1c) (Hophal) to be a stranger, be one alienated.

Fire in censers in the standoff between Moses and Korah – Num. 16:16-21

God judged Korah and his men. The men who rose up in rebellion against Moses and Aaron could only be overcome when the fire of God was in its right place – the censers of those in true leadership.

The next day, God's people rose in rebellion against Moses (again!) – Numbers 16:41-50

It was the fire of God in the Censer that stopped the plague.

King Uzziah, full of pride, offered his own fire in a censer before the LORD – 2 Chron. 26:16-21

God struck him with leprosy, and it remained until the day he died.

Elders of Israel whose censers were filled with Paganism – Ezek. 8:5-14

² Ibid.

God's Judgment came upon His people.

Remember Deut. 12:29-32:

Deuteronomy 12:29–32 (ESV)

29 “When the LORD your God cuts off before you the nations whom you go in to dispossess, and you dispossess them and dwell in their land, **30** take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?—that I also may do the same.’ **31** You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way, for every abominable thing that the LORD hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.

32 “Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.

3. What is the Censer?

I believe the censer represents our “nefesh” – that which is in our minds, our hearts, and our spirits. Our censer can be filled with strange fire or holy fire. When our censers are filled with strange fire, things go badly for us because God is forced to lift His hand of protection and eventually allow His judgment upon our flesh to save our souls. When our censers are filled with holy fire, it allows His judgment to be released upon the works of darkness.

What fire is in your censer?

Note: We will be posting the Holy Fire – Strange Fire Series to the KIB site in MP3 audio with the study guide.