



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Stirring up the Flame within ... by Billy

READ 2 TIMOTHY 1:3-11

- “**God has not given us a spirit of timidity but of power and love and discipline.**” (2 Tim.1:7). If we can grasp this fundamental truth we will see things in a different light.
- When something is described as being latent it means that it is hidden, concealed, suppressed, undeveloped and dormant.
- Paul sees within Timothy a genuine faith (v.4) So much fruit has been realized and activated in the life of the young pastor.
- But so much more is waiting to be realized and there are forces both external and personal that would suppress this work of grace.
- Yes there are powers of deception abroad that would lull us all into a sense of slothfulness so that God's power within us remains dormant.
- Returning to Paul's admonition to Timothy let's consider the meaning of the word stir in 2 Tim.1:6, as it is the only time the word is used. The meaning is to fan into flame.
- Remember this if you forget everything else. The latent power is within and only but needs a stirring. Once the spark is created it has to be fanned into a flame.
- If your passion to reach the lost has waned, fan it back to a flame because the spark of God's Spirit remains within you.
- We are born again of incorruptible seed so that the latent and potent power of the Spirit of God will never die.
- Maybe you have become weary of serving others, or your prayer life has become stagnant because of discouragements.
- It is our responsibility to stir up what God has already given to us so we can work out what God has already worked in our lives. (Phil.2:12-13).
- God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity. God has given us a spirit of power and of love and of self discipline.
- These are the latent powers that we need to stir up within ourselves.
- God's power is greater than our stubborn will and we will discover this to be true when we yield (be still and know) to His will.
- God's love can melt our cold unfeeling heart and the mind that is controlled by the Spirit is a mind that is disciplined by God's peace.

