



First Love

Ps Caleb Nicholes

Sunday Evening 27th March 2011

Revelation 2:1-5

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

*These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. Yet I hold this against you: **You have forsaken your first love.** Remember the height from which you have fallen! **Repent and do the things you did at first.***

Not just returning to our first love but living from our first love for Jesus

First love is:

1. *Extravagant*
2. *Risk taking*
3. *Romantic*
4. *Passionate, hungry, desperate*
5. *Incomprehensible to outsiders*
6. *Courageous*

Not just returning to our first love but living from our first love for Jesus

First love must remain

1. *First love*
2. *Covenant*
3. *Intimacy*
4. *Seed*
5. *Birthing*
6. *Maturity (fully grown)*

From hard heart to first love

2 Chronicles 36:13

He became stiff-necked and hardened his heart and would not turn to the LORD, the God of Israel.

**Holy Spirit isn't active
= first love lost
= stiff necked and hardened heart**

The Holy Spirit keeps the first love spirit alive

Romans 5:5-8

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

**The Holy Spirit brought us
into first love with Jesus**

The Holy Spirit keeps the first love spirit alive

Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life

Bride in first love prepares herself



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Dry drunks have lost their first love

Acts 2:13-17

Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”

*Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: “In the last days, God says, I will **pour out my Spirit on all people.**”*

Intoxicated with first love