



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Morning Worship Service

December 5, 2010

Sermon by Ray Reynolds

Introduction: There is so much to be learned from the early church. One thing we learn is that it was their faith, not fear, that propelled them forward. People did not fear the sword or persecution. They had faith in the Lord! Every Christian should read Foxes Book of Martyrs. Read of stories where people giving their neck to the sword and their bodies to be burned. The early Christians were on the move, literally. Read the book of Acts. On nearly every page they are planting new churches and adding new members. However, there were three things that plagued the church. These same things attempt to quench the spirit of the church today, so let's learn about them together

Discussion:

I. An Elite Mindset Can Quench Our Faith

- A. Perfection in the Plan (**Matthew 5:48, James 1:17, 2:1-13**)
- B. Perfection in the Church (**Hebrews 12:12-14, Matthew 21:31**)
- C. Perfection in the Savior (**Philippians 2:15, Matthew 19:21**)
- D. Perfection in the Faith (**Matthew 19:21, Matthew 5:29-30**)
- E. Perfection in the Correction (**Romans 12:9-10, Hebrews 12:14, Matthew 10:24**)

II. An Egotistic Mindset Can Quench Our Faith

- A. Selfishness in the World (**Philippians 2:3-4, I John 2:16**)
- B. Selflessness in the Church (**John 17:20-21, I Peter 2:9-10**)
- C. Selfishness in the Disciples (**John 13:35, John 15:8**)
- D. Selfishness in the Light (**John 9:5, Matthew 5:13-17**)
- E. Selfishness in the Garbage (**James 1:37, Acts 2:41-47, Acts 4:32-37**)

III. An Evil Mindset Can Quench Our Faith

- A. Pride Despises God (**Deuteronomy 8:2-3, I Samuel 15:23**)
- B. Pride Defiles Man (**Psalms 19:13, Proverbs 11:2, Proverbs 13:10**)
- C. Pride Divides People (**Proverbs 16:18, Proverbs 21:24, I Corinthians 1:10**)
- D. Pride Dishonors Life (**Isaiah 14, Philippians 2:5, Proverbs 18:12, Proverbs 29:23**)
- E. Pride Destroys Souls (**Proverbs 15:25, Proverbs 16:18-19, Proverbs 29:23**)

Conclusion: We cannot afford to let anything quench our spiritual fire! God has given us His Word, He has poured out His Spirit, and given us all the signs to see His Will. The problem is that we have close our physical eyes and walk by faith. We need a faith on fire! Do you have that kind of faith?

WORD OF THE DAY = "FAITH"