

THE FELLOWSHIP OF KINDRED MINDS

Acts 2: 1, 42.

vs. 1-2, 4a, 41-47

INTRODUCTION: Hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds....The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above."

I. The Early Christians were of One Accord

A. About the Power of the Risen Christ

vs. 32

B. About God's Purpose of Redemption.

(1). The memory of a sacrificial love that can transform lives.

(2). The conviction of a divine purpose that is not willing that any should be lost. 2 Peter 3:9

C. About the Need for Prayer

D. About the Need for Forgiveness. Acts 5:31

(1). All are sinners. 13:38

(2). The church is a hospital for sinners---not a sanctuary for saints.

(3). God's forgiveness is offered freely to all.

E. About the Reality of Faith. Acts 13:39

(1). Agreements about faith are more important than disagreements.

(2). Most Christians agree on the things that matter most.

(3). We Christians MAY NOT HAVE ALL THE answers to all theological questions but we are connected up to the ONE WHO has the answers, the one who is the source of all energy.

II. THE EARLY CHRISTIANS WERE ALL OF ONE FELLOWSHIP.

A. The significance of this word in the New Testament.

It means sharing in partnership, or participation together in social or spiritual connections or dealings, especially the exchange of thoughts or feelings or worship.

B. They were of one Fellowship in a Common experience of Salvation. Acts 4:12

C. In a Common Understanding of the Gospel. Acts 20:24 "Gospel of the grace of God." Paul wrote in Philippians 1:5 of their "fellowship in the gospel."

D. In a Common Concern for Each Other. See 2 Cor. 8:4 about "the fellowship of the ministering to the saints." See Acts 2:44, 45. Also Phil. 2:1, "if any fellowship of the spirit."

E. In a Common Service for Christ.

(1). To save our lives is to lose our lives.

(2). But to be burned out in doing the will of God is to shine forever--
as the stars that never go out,
as the light that never fails,
as a lamp whose oil never diminishes,
as a star which midnight cannot dim or hide.

F. In a Common Joy in the Lord. vs 47.

CONCLUSION: The call now is for the church to be the church, and for Christians to be real Christians. Thus in the Fellowship of kindred minds we shall find a unity that ties us together in love, faith, and hope.

They may not agree on everything,
but they agree on the things that matter most—
God, Jesus Christ as Lord, eternity,

Christian life and faith,
the war on evil,
and the final triumph of righteousness.

"What is the wind?" a little girl asked her grandfather, a wise and hardy sailor.

"I don't know, my child," answered the old man of the sea, "but I can hoist a sail."

There is the evidence of the unprovable fact.
For the seaman it is wind in the sails.
For the Christian it is life in the soul.
For the church it is the indescribable miracle
of the Spirit of God.

When you get connected up with this source of divine power you will rise above the circumstances of your physical environment. You can hoist a sail that will carry you to your goals and to the fulfilment of your dreams.

You can be a triumphant winner,
rather than a defeated loser.
You can break out of your introverted social
shell and know the unspeakable joy of being
a part of "the fellowship of kindred minds"
as brothers and sisters in the family of God.

CONCLUSION.

1. Whatever their disagreements, their agreements are more important. They may not agree on everything, but they agree on the things that matter most—God, Jesus Christ as Lord, eternity, Christian life and faith, the war on evil, and the final triumph of righteousness.

2. Christians may not have all the same answers to the same theological questions, but they are all connected up to the same source of energy. "What is the wind?" a little girl asked her grandfather, a wise and hardy sailor. "I don't know, my child," answered the old man of the sea, "but I can hoist a sail." There is the evidence of the irrefutable fact. For the seaman it is wind in the sails. For the Christian it is life in the soul. For the church it is the indescribable miracle of the Spirit of God. When you get connected up with this source of divine power you will rise above the circumstances of your physical environment. You can hoist a sail that will carry you to your goals and to the fulfillment of your dreams.

You can be a triumphant winner, rather than a defeated loser. You can break out of your introverted social shell and know the unspeakable joy of being a part of "the fellowship of kindred minds" as brothers and sisters in the family of God.

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