

Fired Up

Conclusion to the series, "Great Faith: When God Speaks"

Sunday, February 24, 2019 • Wade Inn

"And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received back their dead by resurrection..."

"...Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword...³⁹And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect."

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross..." (Hebrews 11:32-12:2 ESV)

Great faith is formed as God uses us to EXTINGUISH fires in the adversities of life.

"...So Paul warned them, ¹⁰ 'Men, I can see that our voyage is going to be disastrous and bring great loss to ship and cargo, and to our own lives also.' ¹¹But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship." (Acts 27:9-11 NIV)

Great faith is formed as God uses us to ENDURE fires in the adversities of life.

"We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. ¹⁹On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. ²⁰When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved." (Acts 27:18-20 NIV)

Great faith is needed to stay FIRE UP and keep the mission in mind.

"Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. ²The islanders showed us unusual kindness. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. ³Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, 'This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, the goddess Justice has not allowed him to live.' ⁵But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects." (Acts 28:1-5 NIV)

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