

Multnomah Channel Yacht Club



Chaplain's Log - February 2012

February brings us Valentine's Day. Thoughts of love and romance fill the air. Contrary to popular belief...Valentine's Day was not started by Hallmark©. Back around the 2nd century the Roman Empire didn't have much use for Christians and many Christian were martyred. These martyred Christians were called Valentines.

Claudius II was the Emperor at the time and was involved in many bloody and unpopular campaigns. He needed men for his army...but the men would rather be at home with their wives and families. This infuriated Claudius and he cancelled all marriages and engagements. Many priests ignored this new law and performed marriages in secret.

Legend has it that one of the Valentines was caught performing a marriage and was dragged to jail. While locked up he performed a miracle by healing the blind daughter of his jailer. On the evening before the execution he wrote a card to this girl and called her "his beloved"..."From her Valentine".

So there you go...that's the legend. I have no idea if it's true or not...but who cares...you get to send chocolate and flowers to the person you love.

What is not a legend is the fact that there were many Christian martyrs. In fact...all of the original apostles became martyrs. This is very powerful because most of these same people followed Jesus while He was alive...then abandoned Him at the crucifixion because they were scared...then after He arose from the grave they realized He really **WAS** God and devoted their lives to the spreading of His Word.

The apostle Paul stated: "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us". (Romans 5:8)

I love chocolates as much, or more, than the next person...but what Christ did for us is beyond my comprehension of love. I hope everyone has a safe and memorable February.

Chaplain Dave

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