

*Billie Gough -
new member*

FIRE KINDLERS.....

Acts 28:2

Louise

"For they kindled a fire and received us every one, because of the present rain and because of the cold."

The historical background is simply this: A ship of people had landed on the Isle of Melitus. Some swam, some floated on pieces of timber from the ship that wrecked, not far out from shore. 276 people landed. The group was composed of a centurion, some soldiers, prisoners. Among the prisoners was Paul. They had sailed for days without sunshine. It was indeed a dark and dreary trip.

The people on the island were barbarians. This, however, did not mean that they had no heart. Paul said, "The barbarous people showed us no little kindness, for they kindled a fire and received us every one because of the present rain and because of the cold."

These Barbarians knew nothing of the personnel of the strangers. They did know that the people were wet and cold and shipwrecked. This was enough to draw from human hearts that something that responds to human need. Little did they realize that they were rendering a service to a world.

You may feel that the little that you do will be unnoticed but matters not how small the kindness done, if done in right spirit, it will be recorded in the Lamb's book of life just as this act of kindness was recorded in the Bible.

There are two kinds of fire kindlers: (From material slant)

- a. Those who kindle the destructive fire that destroys life and property... Their motives are born of hell and are seen in the dark deeds of history.
- b. Those that kindle the beneficent fires... cook food for the world, produce steam, electricity, warmth for tramps, and shipwrecked.

There are two kinds of fire kindlers spiritually

- a. Those that kindle fire of passion in their own hearts and in hearts of others. They burn up their brains, bodies, talents, and time. When all is said and done they have not reached any where.
- b. THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR HEARTS STRANGELY WARMED RECEIVING THE BAPTISM OF FIRE. THIS FLAME CATCHES TO OTHERS ETC.

It is not always an easy matter to build a fire. Things have to be just right before the thing will blaze. You place before your wife wet or green stove wood and wet kindling and she may blaze before it does. *Repentance is a good match.*

Not only dry wood but a dry match. An unconditioned match not light it...an unconditioned leader will not kindle the needed spark in human souls.

When the fire is once going good power is produced, and the bread of life is prepared for hungry souls...the best bread is cooked when you have a hot oven...and one with even heat. *Even temper -*

Fire kindlers do a very little throwing of water on the flames...the water throwers are the people who do least for the church. *(you have heard "They threw cold water on the matter")*

Fires have to be fed... that very thing happened there.. When the fire had burned a while Paul walked up and threw more fuel on the fire. *prayer - ch attendance - Bible reading*

When this world Christian fed the flames and the fire got all hot a viper ran out and bit him. When your church begins to warm up in any of its organizations you may look for vipers to run out and bite....poisons of various kinds are injected...Quitterism...No more for me ism...let them have it ism.

Some people will listen to the vipers and lose faith in those attacked...they said that Paul must be a murderer or this punishment would not have come....But look Paul shook it off...it stung but it did not kill...He did his greatest work after that. *the sneak attack at pearl harbor did harm but it is being shaken off - the world is going to*

Get this lesson...if you have a flame feed it....if a viper appears throw him off.....in consecration do your greatest work....

meet and justice to sneak attacker

