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RIDING THE FENCE

I have heard many say they would like to see a modern day move of God like the book of Acts. I think that would be an awesome thing to see, but just what did the early church experience? One thing for sure, they didn't "ride the fence." What does that mean? It means they were sold out all the way, or they weren't truly Christians.

Many were tortured, stoned, crucified, chased out of town, and hated. They knew that following Jesus Christ would be either going "all the way" or not going at all. A lesson can be learned from Ananias and Saphira who lied to the Holy Ghost and dropped dead. They had a piece of property that they sold. They sold it to give it to the apostles for the work of the ministry. They held back some of the money but gave the apostles the impression that what they were given was the entire amount of the sale. Peter told Ananias that while he had the property it was his to do with what he wanted. The death sentence came because he and his wife agreed to lie about how much they got for the property. That sounds like a serious problem. I wonder how many deaths there would be in the church of today. Would the church be empty?

Now I am not telling you to sell your home and belongings and give all of the proceeds to God. That is your choice to give or not. God is looking for those that will give him 100% of themselves and be willing to do what he asks of us.

Jesus told the Apostle John to write to the church at Laodicea. They were the modern day "ride the fencers." They weren't hot and they weren't cold. They were lukewarm. Jesus warned them to repent, or he would spit them out of his mouth. That is a serious charge. This church had money, and lacked nothing, yet Jesus called them "poor and naked and miserable." Why because the things had them instead of them having the things. Things are only temporal, but a relationship with God is eternal. Choose wisely.