Society Of the Early Church

Reading – Romans 1:24-32

M***editate on these verses:***

1. 1 John 5:4-5 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world -- our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

2. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

3. Romans 8:37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

**The first century was a world filled with slavery. Abortion & Exposure**

Divorce Problems And Breakdown Of The Family Corrupt Entertainment was Everywhere

Rampant Immorality

Corrupt Politics, No Trust Or Stability In Government

The Power Of The Gospel – Then

***(1 Corinthians 6:9-11) Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, {10} nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. {11} And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.***

***Acts 19:20 So mightily grew the word of the Lord and prevailed.***

Acts 13:1 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

Philippians 4:22 All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household.

Philippians 1:12-13 But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ.

Colossians 1:5-6 because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth.

Imagine; No radio, TV, Internet, church bulletins, correspondence courses, just people dedicated to spreading the gospel to a lost world.

**The Power Of The Gospel - Now**

***1 John 4:4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.***

2 Corinthians 2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

We are to be "More than conquerors". We are to be bold - not frightened children hiding in a corner. ***Revelation 21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.***

Philippians 2:14-15 Do all things without complaining and disputing that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.