

Sunday, May 3, 2009

4th Sunday of Easter

B

Acts of the Apostles 4: 8 – 12

1 John 3: 1 – 2

John 10: 11 -18

Today's reading from Acts 4: 8 -12 shows Peter preaching to the Sanhedrin about Christ's spirit alone having healed a crippled beggar – and not Peter's spirit. In the previous verses 1–8, both Peter and John are persecuted because they proclaim that Christ had been raised from the dead. This is the ultimate sacred declaration of Christ alive and the one who saves. For Peter his road to martyrdom is now beginning. Tradition has it the John died of natural causes.

Even in our own time, Christians and people of other faiths are being martyred, imprisoned, persecuted, tortured, raped and murdered for believing in someone or something that a government finds subversive and a threat. Our prayers should always yield an intercession for those who believe - but can't worship as openly and freely as we can. The Acts of the Martyrs is the official Catholic record of the trials of early Christian martyrs and narratives of their trial and death (mostly by court records). Sts Felicity & Perpetua were catechumens and chose death. Take some time during this Easter season and read the stunning accounts of these two brave women. You wont be the same!

193

Tom Hackim

Copywriter ~ Poet ~ Wordperson

www.hackimflorida.com

tom@hackimflorida.com

Office: 407-539-3076

Cell: 305-793-8335