



Monday Matters

October 13, 2014



Sail On

It was August 3, 1492, at dawn, when Christopher Columbus and his crew had boarded the Santa Maria and two other small ships and set sail for Cipangu, an island according to Marco Polo that was located in the Sea of China. It would be a risky voyage that no one had previously undertaken.

So why did Columbus take on this risky project? According to history it was to find a trade route to the Orient. But in his journal of the expedition Columbus stated: "With a hand that could be felt, the Lord opened my mind to the fact that it would be possible . . . and he opened my will to desire to accomplish that project. . . . The Lord purposed that there should be something miraculous in this matter of the voyage to the Indies. "

Regardless of the risk and dangers ahead, Columbus sailed, in part, to fulfill a religious quest. Bartolome de Las Casas wrote in his commentary some years later that Columbus "was extremely zealous for the honor and glory of God; with deep longing he yearned for the evangelization of these peoples and for the planking and flourishing everywhere of people's faith in Jesus Christ."

History books tell us of the trials and tribulations the sailors encountered throughout the journey to discover the trade route to the Orient as well as their time in what was to become America and the trip back to Spain and Portugal. What it doesn't record for students to learn is the greater purpose in this expedition. As Samuel Eliot Morison wrote, "This conviction that God destined him (Columbus) to be an instrument for spreading the faith was far more potent than

the desire to win glory, wealth, and worldly honors, to which he was certainly far from indifferent."

While we might seek our personal fame in this world of a family, a home, two cars in the garage, and a big bank account, there is a greater purpose(s) that God has for each one of us. Certainly in whatever we do it should be to bring honor and glory to God. Each of us should be instrumental in spreading the Gospel message wherever we are, in whatever we are doing. There will be times during our exploration in finding and fulfilling our purpose that the waters get rough but we must Sail On. There will be times when the winds blow high but we must Sail On.



Sail On
The Imperials

Today I encourage everyone reading this post to remember Columbus from October 11, 1492, and his purpose in discovering what was to become America. In addition, let us never forget that we should just keep our compass set on the Son and He'll guide us through stormy seas. We can't afford to throw our lives to the wind. Remember, when we have the Lord in control of our ship, He will guide us safely in.

Sail On!

To reach a port we must set sail -
Sail, not tie at anchor
Sail, not drift
~Franklin D. Roosevelt~

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