



welcome to

SIERRA

community church

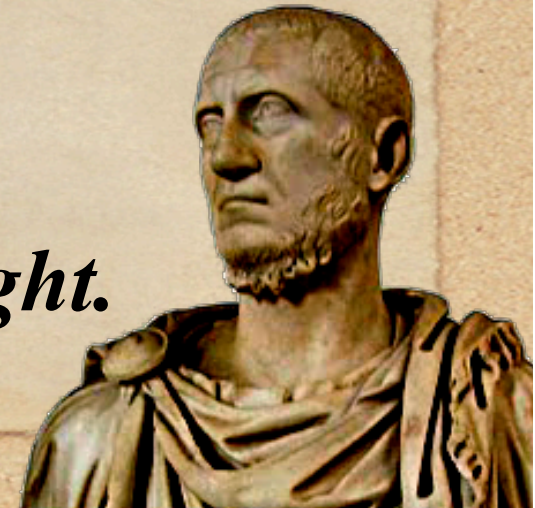
8/15/10



Are you easily

**DISTRACTED?**

*"Besides being put to death (Christians) were made to serve as objects of amusement; they were covered with wild beasts' skins and torn to death by dogs. Some were crucified, others set on fire to serve to illuminate the night when daylight failed, fastened on crosses, and, when daylight failed, covered by inflammable matter, were set on fire to serve as torches during the night.*



*Or tied to stakes in Nero's gardens while he drove around in his chariot, naked, indulging himself in his midnight revels, gloating over the dying agonies of his victims. The Roman Christians, accused by Nero of setting the city on fire, were massacred in a spectacular fashion on the Vatican Hill."*

*-Publius Cornelius Tacitus (Annales 15:44)*





Key #1 This is what **LIFE** is all about!

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...so stay **SOBER**. vs.13 *“be self-controlled”*

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*”*



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...so stay **SOBER**. vs.13 *“be self-controlled”*

...so **LIVE** full of hope. vs.13 *“set your hope fully”* (**Hope**: *to wait with joy and full confidence* - From Blue Letter Bible).

# Key #2 Focus on HOLINESS! vs15-16

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...there's a priority on LOVING others.

*vs. 22 - 2:2 <sup>22</sup>you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.*

*<sup>1</sup>Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.*



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**GREEK:**

φιλαδελφία (philadelphia) = brotherly love

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ἀγαπάω (agapaō) = love characterized by  
action "straining, great effort"

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to **PARTICIPATE.**

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"imperishable  
seed"



Key #3 You're "born again"  
to **PARTICIPATE.**

...You have been "born again"  
because of what **GOD** has done. vs. 23

*For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable*



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