

A Note from Andy

Hey guys!

Have you ever heard of a man called Telemachus?

If you've read *The Odyssey*, you might be thinking of Odysseus' son, but this Telemachus was a Christian monk who lived in the 400's AD.

We don't know much about Telemachus except for the day of his death, but we do know that he came from the east to visit Rome. It just so happened at that time that the Emperor Honorius ordered a great celebration involving gladiator fights in The Great Coliseum. It is there we find Telemachus watching the gladiators fighting to the death.

Telemachus couldn't contain his conviction that these sinful and senseless murders were wrong, so he jumped into the arena and tried, singlehandedly, to stop the gladiators from fighting. He jumped in between match after match, until the crowds became frustrated and ultimately, one gladiator ran him through with his sword and ended Telemachus' life.

History tells us that the people, even the emperor, were so amazed at Telemachus' conviction and act to stand against sin that Honorius banned gladiator fights.

1 Peter 2:21 tells us:

"For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in His steps."

My prayer for each of us in 2026 is that we each have courage like Telemachus to take a stand for God in the face of sin!

Love you guys!

Andy W.