BURN THE SHIPS

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On February 19, 1519 a Spanish explorer set sail for Mexico with an entourage of 11 ships, 13 horses, 110 sailors and 553 soldiers.  The population upon his arrival was approximately 5 million.  The odds that were stacked against him were 7,541 to 1.  Two previous expeditions had failed to establish a settlement in the New World.

What Cortes the explorer is reported to have done after landing is an epic tale.  He issued an order that turned his mission into an all-or-nothing proposition; Burn the ships!  As his crew watched their fleet of ships burn and sink, they came to terms with the fact that retreat was not an option.

There comes a time in every life, in every marriage, in every relationship, in every church, when we have to be willing to do the same thing.  We have to be willing to sell out to the cause of Christ and refuse to retreat or take no for an answer.

For some people, whenever the going gets tough, they quit.  For others, when the going gets tough, the tough get going.  They buckle down harder.  They start praying more.  They start fasting more.  They refuse to turn to plan B when God wants plan A for their life!

I don't know about you, but I have burned some ships.  I have burned some bridges.  I would rather die on the beach of my dream than to live without a dream.

I would rather crash and burn going for what God has for me, than to succeed at anything else!

There are times in our lives when we need to burn the ships to our past.  We do so by making a defining decision that will eliminate the possibility of sailing back to the old world we left behind.

Somebody needs to burn some ships here today.  You need to burn the ship named Past Failure. You need to burn the ship named Bad Habit.  You need to burn the ship named Regret.  You need to burn the ships named Shame and Guilt.  You need to burn the ship named My Old Way of Life.

God has a bright future for every person here today but we can't enjoy the future that God has for us to enjoy as long as we are content to live in the past.