



- "You never know how much you really believe anything until its truth or falsehood becomes a matter of life and death to you." ~C.S. Lewis
- "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you." – John 15:18

- "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." – Matthew 5:44
- "Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man." – Luke 6:22

- “Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” – Matthew 5:10.

**Accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior makes you an enemy of this world. Because the world hates Christ it will hate you. Count on it!**

- “These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.” – John 16:33

- Rather than run from persecution we should embrace the privilege for suffering for the Lord.
- It is in our response to persecution and suffering that our faith is truly revealed.

## **I. Civil Persecution**

- Jesus says that persecution is coming.
- Not only does persecution come from the Jews, it also comes from the secular world.
- When you trust in God’s revealed plan you give the Spirit the power to work through you.

## II. Family Betrayal

- The most intimate family relationships will become deadly.

## III. Hate By All

- Jesus is stressing that loving Him means that the world will hate us. We cannot have it both ways.
- Those who trust in Christ will believe His Word about the future and know that there is something far greater to come.