

FBC POWELL, 2-3-08 PM NOTES
"WHAT FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CAN EXPECT"
MATTHEW 10:16-31
(#42 in Series, "Verse by Verse through Matthew")

Luke 14:26-27 (NKJV) "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple."

2 Timothy 3:12 (NKJV) "Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution."

"No one can read this passage without being deeply impressed with the honesty of Jesus. He never hesitated to tell men what they might expect, if they followed Him. It is as if He said, 'Here is My task for you – at its grimmest and at its worst – do you accept it?' Plummer comments, 'This is not the world's way to win adherents.' The world will offer a man roses, roses all the way, comfort, ease, advancement, the fulfillment of his worldly ambitions. Jesus offered His men hardship and death. And yet the proof of history is that Jesus was right."

—William Barclay

Acts 14:22 (NKJV) "Strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting *them* to continue in the faith, and *saying*, 'We must through **many tribulations** enter the kingdom of God.'"

I. We Can Expect the World's Opposition (vv. 16-23)

A. The Picture (v. 16)

Genesis 3:1a (NKJV) "Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field..."

Colossians 4:5 (AMP) "Behave yourselves wisely [living prudently and with discretion] in your relations with those of the outside world (the non-Christians), making the very most of the time *and* seizing (buying up) the opportunity."

Daniel 6:4-5 (NASB) "Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or *evidence of corruption*, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was *to be* found in him. ⁵ Then these men said, 'We will not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel unless we find *it* against him with regard to the law of his God.'"

B. The Places (vv. 17-23)

1. Religion (v. 17)

Acts 22:19 (NKJV) "So I said, 'Lord, they know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believe on You.'"

2 Corinthians 11:24 (NKJV) "From the Jews five times I received forty *stripes* minus one."

2. Government (vv. 18-20)

“I am willing for a dozen preachers to go, but not you. Not with those hands! My people are not such fools as to take note of your preaching, but they will take notice of those scarred hands.”

—The King of Burma in answer to Adoniram Judson’s request to preach the gospel in a certain village

3. The Home (v. 21)

4. Society (vv. 22-23)

C. The Pattern (vv. 24-25)

John 15:18-21 (NKJV) “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it hated* you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me.”

II. We Can Expect God’s Vindication (vv. 26-27)

III. We Can Expect God’s Veneration (v. 28)

Proverbs 29:25 (NKJV) “The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.”

“Here lies one who feared God so much that he never feared the face of any man.”

—Spoken at John Knox’s Grave

*Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God’s truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.*

—Martin Luther

“Fear God and fear nothing else. Don’t fear God and fear everything else.”

—Oswald Chambers

IV. We Can Expect God’s Provision (vv. 29-31)

“If God has work for me to do, I cannot die.”

—Henry Martyn