

The Messiah's Warning of Persecution

Mathew 10:16-23

1. *Counsel 1: Know two facts*

- a. You are commissioned
- b. You are as sheep among wolves

2. *Counsel 2: Be wise and harmless*

3. *Counsel 3: Beware of men*

- a. The persecutors:
The state and the religionists
- b. The reasons
you will be persecuted
 - 1) For the Lord's sake
 - 2) To be a testimony

4. *Counsel 4:*

Do not worry about a defence

- a. God will meet your need
- b. God's Spirit will speak
through you

5. *Counsel 5:*

Know that families will be divided

6. *Counsel 6:*

Endure to the end

7. *Counsel 7:*

Flee persecution

16 "I am sending you out
like sheep among wolves.
Therefore be as shrewd as snakes
and as innocent as doves.

17 Be on your guard;
you will be handed over to the local councils
and be flogged in the synagogues.

18 On my account you will be brought
before governors and kings
as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

19 But when they arrest you,
do not worry about what to say
or how to say it.
At that time you will be given what to say,

20 for it will not be you speaking,
but the Spirit of your Father
speaking through you.

21 "Brother will betray brother to death,
and a father his child;
children will rebel against their parents
and have them put to death.

22 You will be hated by everyone because of me,
but the one who stands firm to the end
will be saved.

23 When you are persecuted in one place,
flee to another.
Truly I tell you,
you will not finish going through
the towns of Israel
before the Son of Man comes.

The Messiah's Encouragement Not to Fear Persecution

Mathew 10:24–33

<p>1. <i>Do not ignore persecution</i></p> <p>a. A warning: You are not above persecution</p> <p>b. A privilege: You are to share the sufferings of Christ</p> <p>c. A surety: You are more likely to suffer persecution than Christ was</p> <p>2. <i>Do not fear persecutors</i></p> <p>a. The truth will be revealed</p> <p>b. The message must be preached</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">1) The message given by Christ: When alone in prayer and study</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">2) The message is urgent</p> <p>3. <i>Do not fear men who kill the body</i></p> <p>a. They cannot kill the soul</p> <p>b. God alone can destroy the soul and the body</p> <p>4. <i>Do not fear – God cares</i></p> <p>a. He cares for the common sparrow</p> <p>b. He cares for every detail of your life, 1 Pet 5:7; Heb 4:15-16</p> <p>c. He values you more than sparrows, Jn 3:6</p>	<p>24 “A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.</p> <p>25 It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household!</p> <p>26 So do not be afraid of them. There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.</p> <p>27 What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.</p> <p>28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.</p> <p>29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father.</p> <p>30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.</p> <p>31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.</p>
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**5. Do not deny Christ:
Loyalty is essential**

- a. Confess Christ
and He will confess you
- b. Deny Christ
and He will deny you

32 Whoever acknowledges me before men,
I will also acknowledge him
before my Father in heaven.

33 But whoever disowns me before men,
I will disown him
before my Father in heaven.”