

# ***“The Essentials!”***

(Week 6)

What **KIND** Of **PERSECUTION** Do You **FACE** ?

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**John 15:18-27 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.

<sup>19</sup> If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

<sup>20</sup> Remember the words I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.

<sup>21</sup> They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me.

<sup>22</sup> If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin.

<sup>23</sup> He who hates me hates my Father as well.

<sup>24</sup> If I had not done among them what no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father.

<sup>25</sup> But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'

<sup>26</sup> "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

<sup>27</sup> And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.

**John 16:1-4 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> "All this I have told you so that you will not go astray.

<sup>2</sup> They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God.

<sup>3</sup> They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me.

<sup>4</sup> I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you. I did not tell you this at first because I was with you.

**Proverbs 16:7 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

**2 Timothy 3:1 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.

**Philippians 1:29 (NIV)**

<sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him,

**1 Thessalonians 3:3-4 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup> so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. You know quite well that we were destined for them.

<sup>4</sup> In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know.

**1 Peter 4:12-13 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup> Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.

<sup>13</sup> But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

**Matthew 2:13-16 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt,

<sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

<sup>16</sup> When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

**Psalms 69:4 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me. I am forced to restore what I did not steal.

**Acts 7:54-60 (NIV)**

<sup>54</sup> When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him.

<sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

<sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

<sup>57</sup> At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him,

<sup>58</sup> dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

<sup>60</sup> Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

#### **Acts 12:1-2 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them.

<sup>2</sup> He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword.

#### **Acts 9:1-2 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest

<sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

#### **Acts 26:9-11 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> "I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

<sup>10</sup> And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the saints in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them.

<sup>11</sup> Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. In my obsession against them, I even went to foreign cities to persecute them.

#### **Galatians 1:13-14 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it.

<sup>14</sup> I was advancing in Judaism beyond many Jews of my own age and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

#### **Philippians 3:6 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless.

