



The Perils of Proclaiming the Truth Matthew 10:16-31

- 1) Preachers of truth are sent by Jesus into perilous conditions (10:16)
 - a) They must be sensible about the times; clever in their dealings
 - b) They must be blameless in character; harmless in their relations
- 2) Christians who proclaim the truth will be persecuted (10:17-20)
 - a) Hated by the religious (17)
 - b) Rejected by pagans (18)
 - c) They will endure physical suffering (17)
 - d) They will be a witness in midst of torment (18)
 - e) In their suffering, the Spirit of God will speak powerfully (19-20)
- 3) Proclaimers of truth will experience ongoing pain in relationships (10:21-22)
 - a) Family will rise up against, even betray (21)
 - b) Friends and strangers will hate us because of Jesus (22)
- 4) There is a cost and a reward to discipleship (10:22b-31)
 - a) The cost of discipleship
 - i) Cities, states, and countries will banish you (23)
 - ii) People will malign, hurt, and kill you (25)
 - b) The reward of discipleship
 - i) Faithfulness to the end reveals one's true salvation (22b)
 - ii) Its end is the coming of the Christ (23)
 - iii) Christians get to experience some of what Christ experienced (24)
 - iv) There is absolutely nothing to fear (26, 31)
 - v) We are known, loved, and cared for by God (29-31)