



"The Sacrifice and Cost of being a True Christian!"

Luke 12:49-53

1. A SNAPSHOT of real Christianity!

- Remember in Acts 11:26 – “They were **FIRST** called **Christians** at Antioch...”
- Not Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, Lutheran or anything else! **Christians!**
- **Why? Christian = Christ like image and living!**
- ***Denominations are all about SECONDARY issues.*** (The differences in trying to figure out things that come after our main belief in Jesus)
- ***The Disciples were martyred and died as Christians! They died and were killed because of their faith and stance in Christ Jesus!***
- **Matthew 10:16** – “**Like sheep among wolves**”
- **Luke 12:49** – “**fire**” = Judgment
- **Luke 12:51** – Jesus came to call out the fake **vs.** the real! The Godly **vs.** the Ungodly!
- **Luke 9:23-27 / Luke 12:51-53**– There is a **PERSONAL cost!**
- Will every blood family member turn against you? No...but many sure can and will!
- Real family may not be blood, but born again believers is the true family of God!
- Jesus is sharing here that it is all or nothing with Him!
- There is a **SACRIFICE** that every believer will have to make and even accept with even family turning against you for your faith in Jesus!
- **Here is the deal...**we do not want even one blood family member missing Jesus! Not one! But, the way they live and what they choose is their Free-Will choice! You must do your best to reach all of the lost! **Why?**
- **2 Peter 3:9!!!** God does not want ANYONE to perish!

2. Persecution WILL HAPPEN to TRUE believers!

- Let me say this today: There is a difference on being persecuted for standing in the faith and doing right vs. doing things in the name of Christ that is not right and bringing on trouble for yourself and the church! **HUGE DIFFERENCE!!!!** (One is persecution and one is making careless choices and opening the door to trouble!)
- **2 Timothy 3:12** – It is a **Fact!**
- **Matthew 10:17** – **The wolves = People!**
- **Ephesians 6:12** – even though this is the real fight – people will be used by Satan and sin to hurt you!

- **Matthew 10:22** – “ALL men will hate you...” (Jesus is sharing that MANY people will turn against you! Not just blood family, but all kinds of people!)
- **1 John 4:3** – Spirit of Anti-Christ is here now!
- **John 15:18-23** – They hated Jesus!

A. Organized Religion!

- **Matthew 10:17**
- **Revelation 17:1-2, 5 & 6**

B. Government! (Local or National)

- **Matthew 10:18**
- **Revelation 13:7**

C. Family!

- **Luke 12:51-53**
- **Mark 13:12-13**

3. Our RESPONSE to this?

- **Be Wise! Be Innocent!** **Matthew 10:16**
- **Be on Guard!** **Matthew 10:17 / 1 Peter 5:8**
- **Be Calm!** **Matthew 10:19-20 / John 14:26**
- **Stand Firm!** **Matthew 10:22 / Matthew 13:20-21**
- **Keep Moving!** **Matthew 10:23**