

Sheep Among Wolves

Introduction

- a. America was founded by people escaping persecution
 - i. Pilgrims landed 1620 Plymouth Rock escaping from the Church of England
 - ii. William Bradford and others
 - b. Enjoyed almost 250 years of religious freedom
 - c. Religious freedom is coming to an end
 - d. Persecution is coming
 - i. This is exactly what Jesus taught in Matthew 10
 - ii. **Display** Mat 10:16-22
- II.** Persecution of The Sheep
- a. Expectation of Persecution
 - i. Not prosperity
 - 1. John 16:33-in this world you will have tribulation ...
 - 2. [2Ti 3:12 KJV] 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
 - 3. I Peter 4:16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name
 - 4. If we live in obedience. We will suffer persecution
 - b. Method of Persecution
 - i. **Re-read text**
 - ii. Beware of men – satan agents
 - iii. Religious Persecution
 - 1. Councils and Synagogues is where persecution started
 - 2. Today Christians are persecuted in many ways by religion
 - 3. [Act 20:29 KJV] 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.
 - iv. Governmental Persecution
 - 1. that kind of discrimination.”
 - v. Family Persecution
 - c. Purpose of the Persecution
 - d. Handling of the persecution
 - e. Victory in the persecution
 - i. Better “but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved”
 - ii. Spiritual endurance over persecution only comes from the Spirit of Christ - Holy Spirit
 - a. [1Jo 2:19 KJV] 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.
- 2. [Rom 8:35-39