

I HAVE TOLD YOU THIS SO YOU WILL NOT FALL AWAY



Tomorrow is execution day.

You were framed.

They trumped up charges against you, put you through a kangaroo court and sentenced you to death.

Tomorrow, before they bring you to the firing squad, you will be allowed to make a one-hour video, to say whatever you choose to your family and friends.

What will you say?

As he celebrated Passover with his disciples, Jesus knew that he would be executed within hours. So he gave them words to help them in the crisis and sustain them through the years of persecution that lay ahead.

“I have told you all these things, so that you will not turn away from God. People will send you away from their meeting places. There will be a time when people will want to kill you. When they do this, they will even think that they are doing what God wants. They will do these things to you because they have never known either the Father or me. But I have told you this so that you will remember. When they begin to do these things, you will remember that I told you about them already.” (John 16:1-4a)

These words were spoken to the eleven just before their trials began.

These words are now spoken to us for the same reason.

“I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away.”

The falling away has already begun.

The words Jesus spoke to his disciples at that last supper (John Chapters 14-17) are now spoken to us.

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But all this they will do to you on my account.... because they do not know him who sent me.” (John 15:18-21)



If you live by the standards of Christendom none of this will affect you.

But if you take up your cross and follow Jesus,

You will taste the wrath of the world.

You will know what it is to be a “speckled bird”.



But you will walk this earth clothed in resurrection power.



Prayer: Lord, Lord keep us from giving up as we see this world, including Christendom... embracing ugly rhetoric, rejoicing over cruelty, arming themselves, making excuses for violence, and accepting persecution and/or abandonment of the poor, broken, and lost. Help us not to fall away, not to be crushed, not to be offended, not to stumble, not to give up and abandon our faith, not to surrender to confusion and doubt, not to be ensnared and go down the wrong path as we are tempted to throw our hands up in despair. Help us to keep our eyes on you, to pursue your will, to pursue your presence with more passion now than ever before. Because Lord we cannot do this, we cannot do this without power from on high. We need your Spirit now more than ever. We don't want to be overwhelmed by fear, disappointment, and grief as we taste the wrath of the world. Instead, we want to draw near to you in it, to be covered by your peace in it, to draw courage from you in the midst of it, to keep our vision of you...so that, yes, we can walk this earth clothed in your resurrection power ... so we may speak and live your healing and truth wherever you send us. Amen.

Message: Richard E. Bieber July 2021 Book 73

Featured Artist: Courtesy of Suzy Schultz at suzy Schultz.net

Maranatha Mirror Messages

mmirror.net



THE LAMB
WHO WAS SLAIN
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN