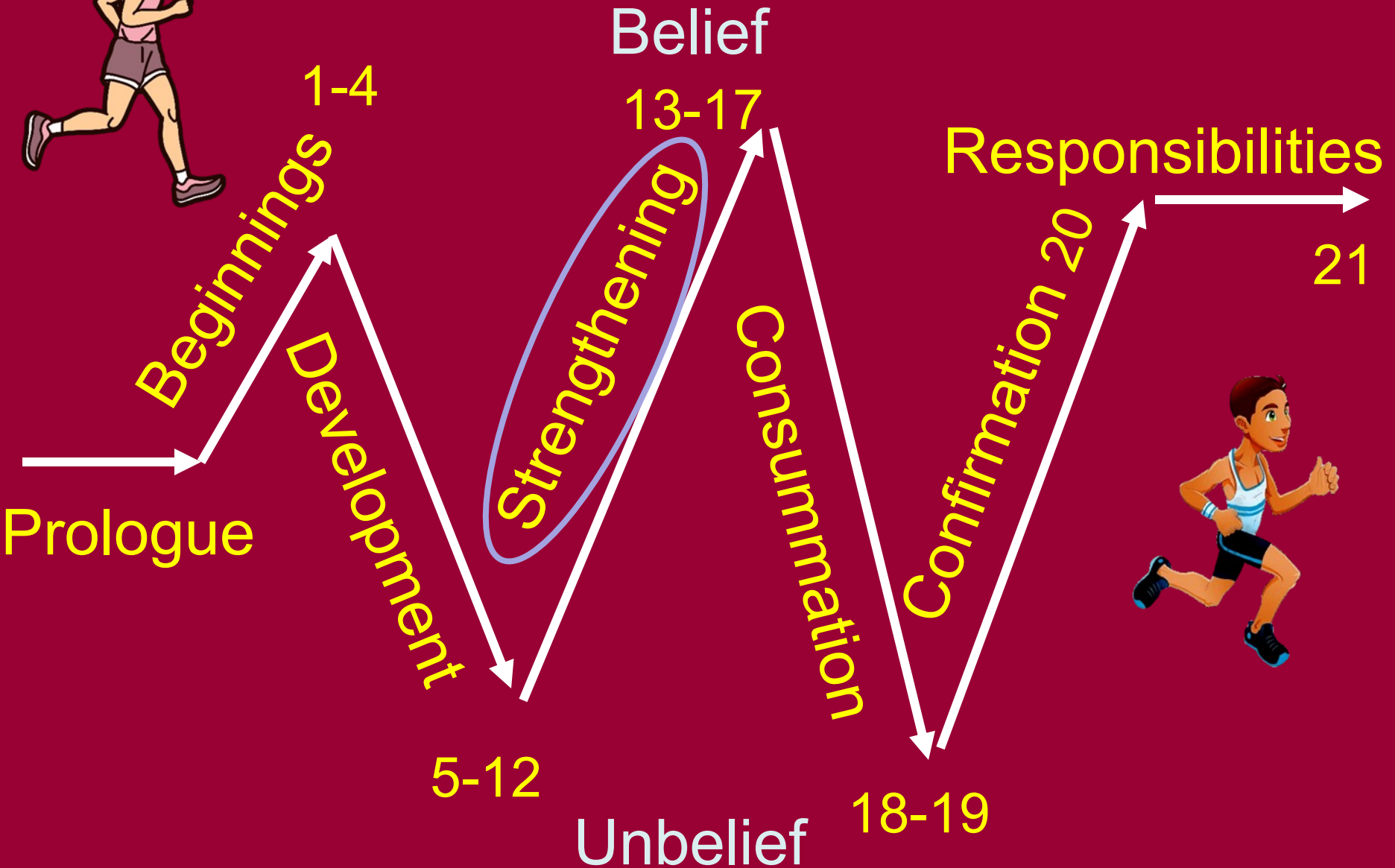


The Hostility of the World

John 15:18-25, 16:1-4

Jogging through John



Strengthening of Belief 13-17

Strengthening belief
in preparation for
Christ's death and the
disciples ministry.

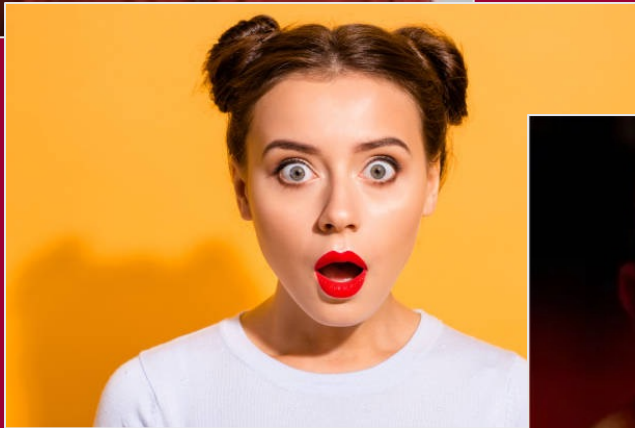
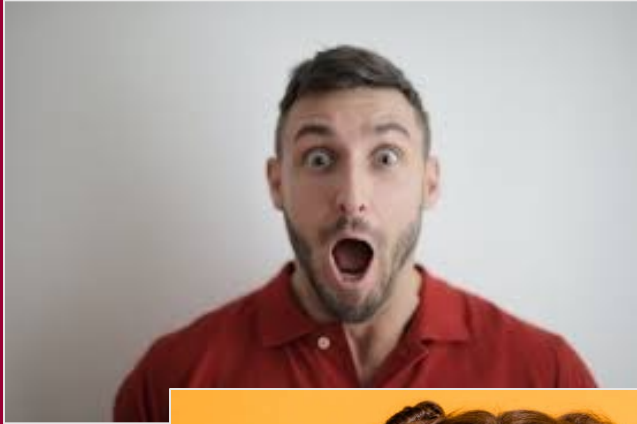


Belief Builders

Surprise!!



Don't Be Surprised...



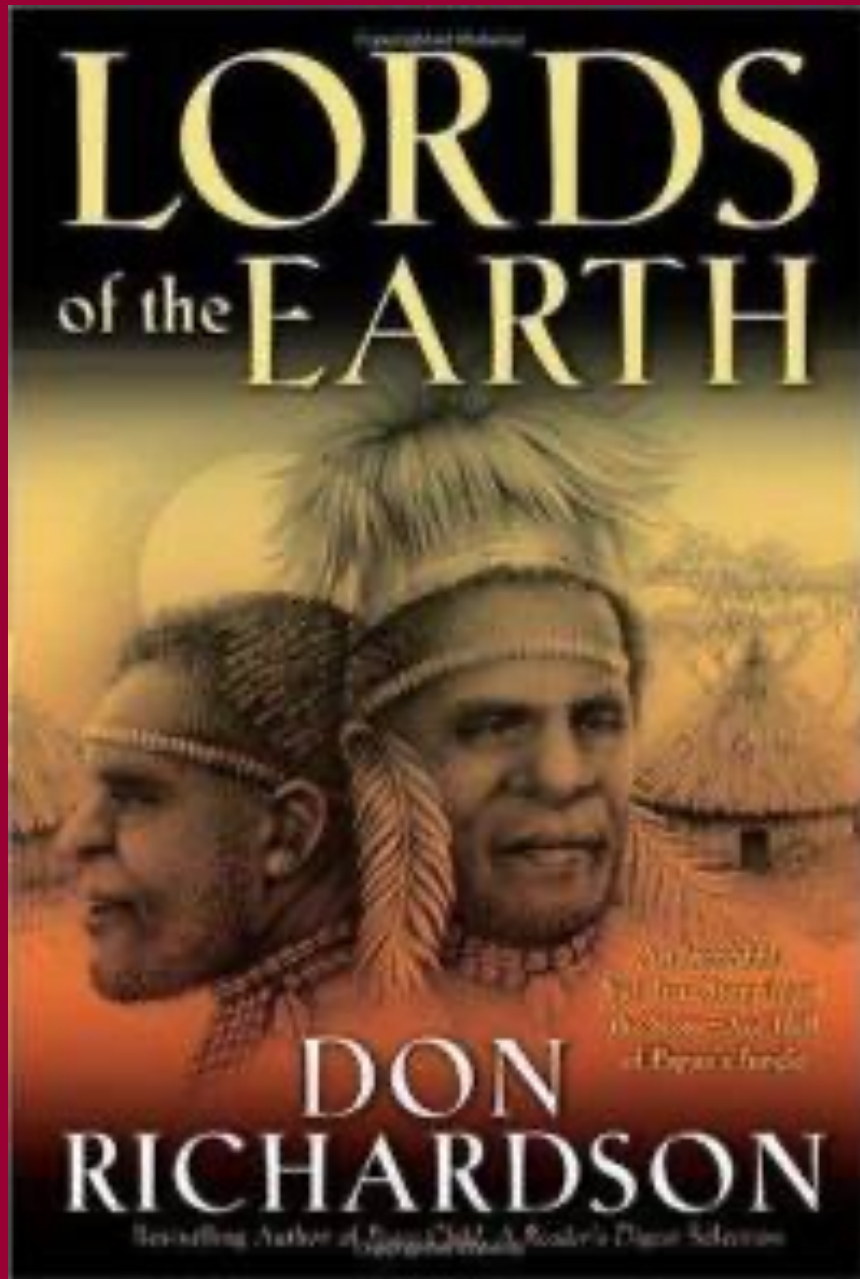
...when you encounter the world's hostility!

The Yalis



Cannibals of
Irian Jaya,
Indonesia





The story of how Stan and Phil were confronted and killed by hostile Yali warriors.

Why?



Why would these natives take the lives of those who came to bring them the good news of Jesus?

*Because the unbelieving world does not know God, the world is **hostile** towards God's people.*

John 15:18-25



The Fact of the World's Hatred 15:18-25

“If the world
hates you

Better,

“Since the world
hates you



Islamic extremists targeted three churches in Sri Lanka killed 253 people and injured hundreds more.



Not the physical
world . . .

. . . but the world in
unbelief and rebellion
against God.



Three Reasons for the World's Hatred



Our different nature v. 19

The world loves its own,
those who embrace its
values and follow its
ways.



Three Reasons for the World's Hatred



Our identification with Christ v. 20

Those who hate
the Master will
hate his servants.

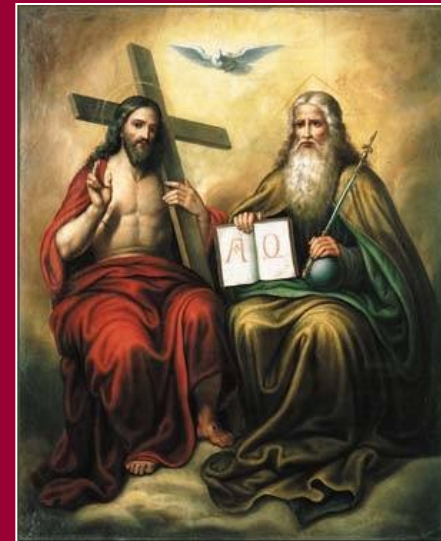


Three Reasons for the World's Hatred

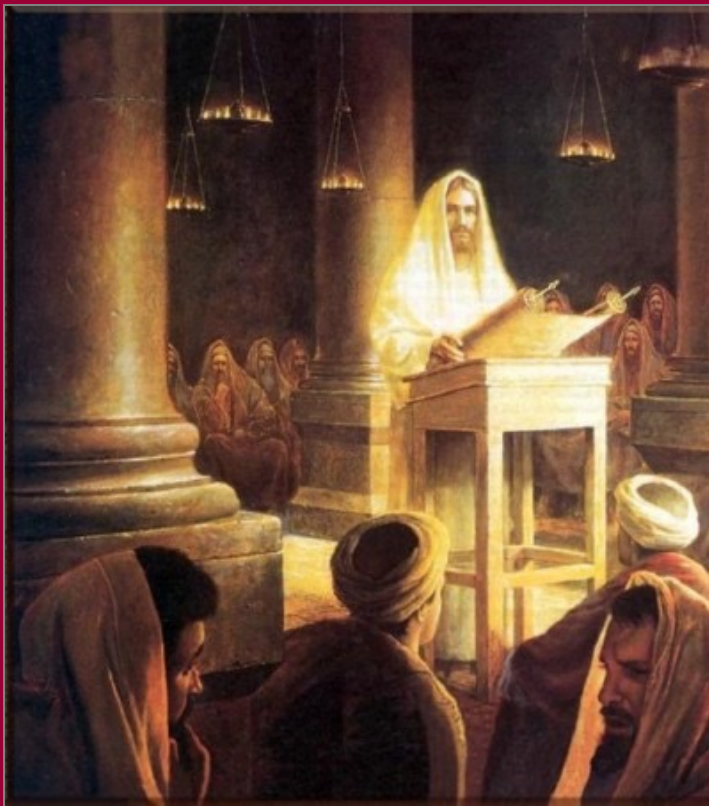


Their ignorance of the Father v. 21

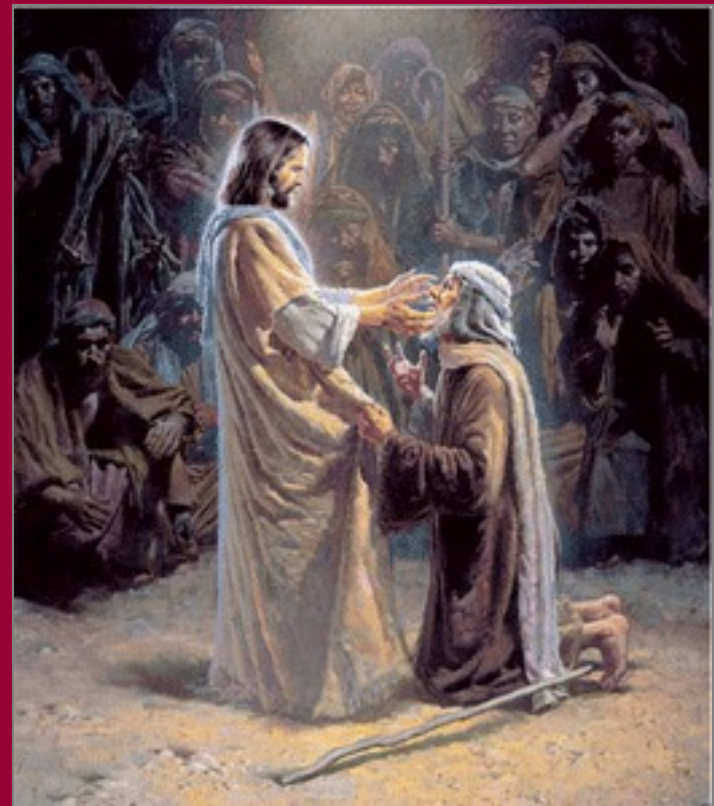
Those who reject the
Son don't know God
the Father.



The world's hatred of Jesus is without excuse: vv. 22-24



Appeal to his Words



Appeal to His Works

The World's Hatred Prophesied

“They hated
me without a
cause”

Psalm 35:19,
& 69:4



The Extent of the World's Hatred

John 16:1-4



The persecutors
will think that they
are *serving God!*

Jesus is “turning on the lights” 16:1



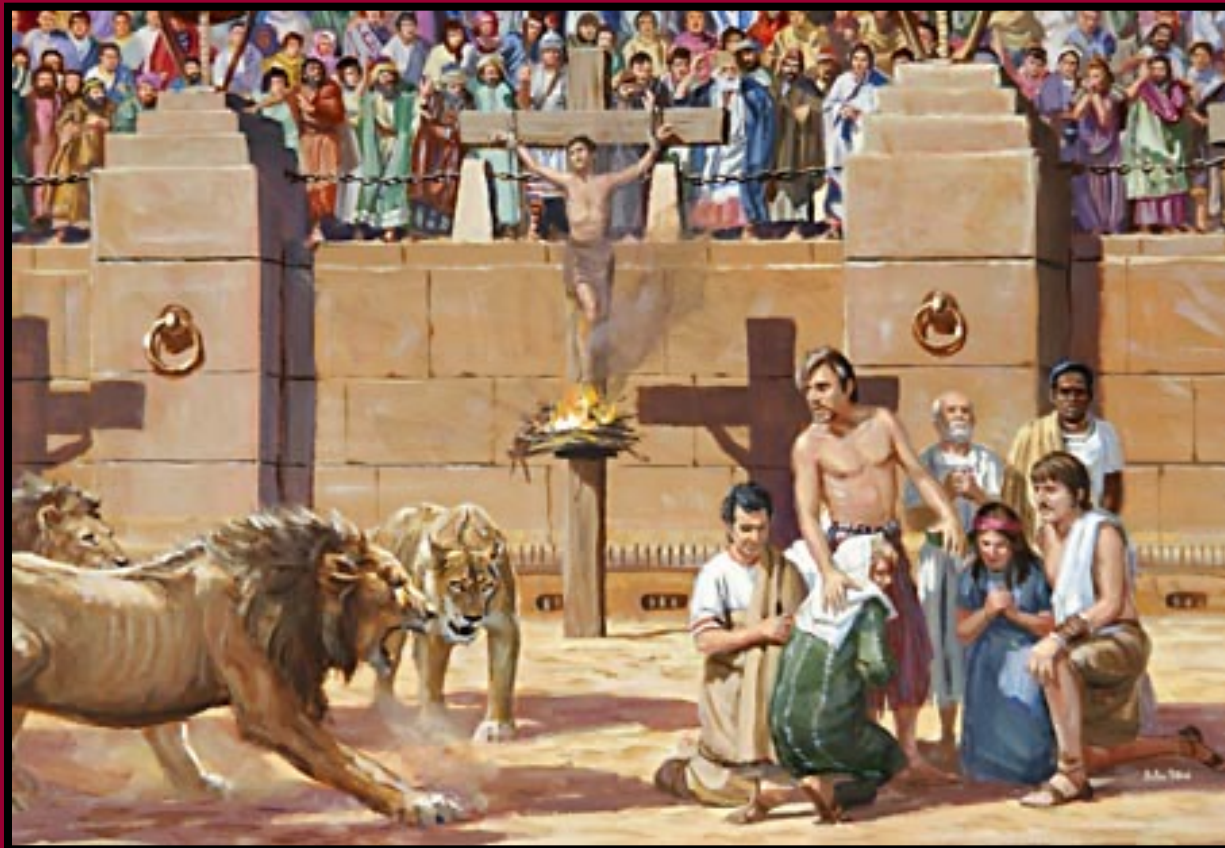
Jesus writes to prevent us from stumbling
over unexpected obstacles and situations.

Saul of Tarsus



Persecuting Christians while believing that he was serving God (Phil. 3:6).

Did the apostles experience the hatred and hostility that Jesus spoke about?



Are Christ's followers being
persecuted today?



News from INDONESIA

Simultaneous bombing and shooting

Two churches attacked, three people injured. Assailants simultaneously attacked two churches in the town of Palu, Central Sulawesi, during church services on Sunday night 12 December, injuring at least three people.

The attacks happened despite government orders for local police to step up security in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

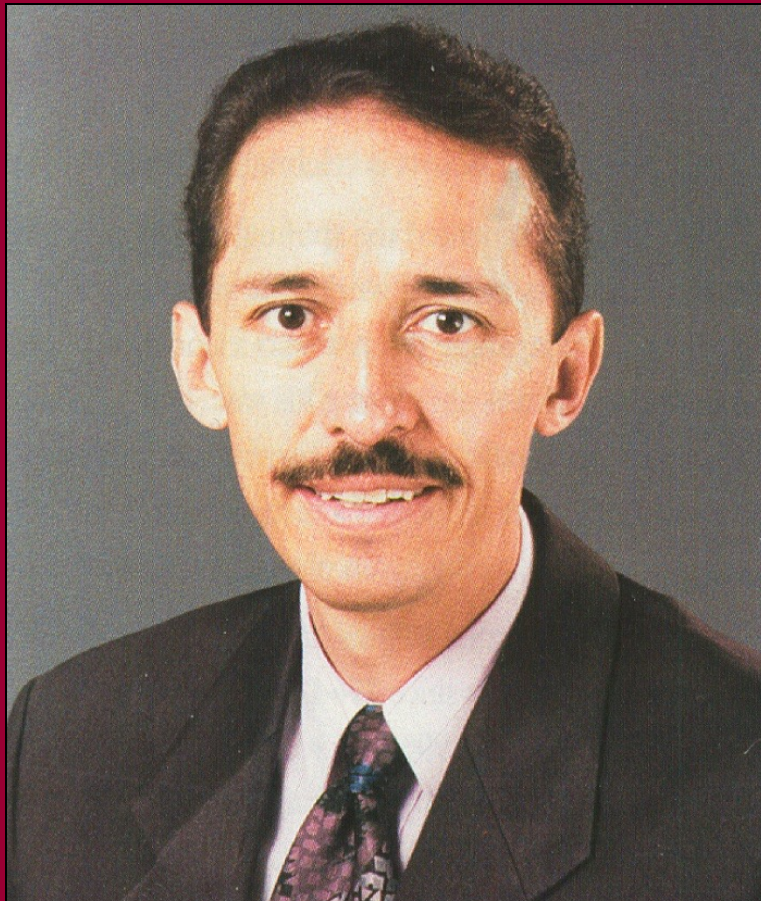
A bomb exploded at Emanuel church in downtown Palu in the early evening at the same time that gunmen opened fire on the congregation of Anugerah church in the south of the city, according to an ABC Radio Australia report.

Sam Kunhyiyop: Western Grad in Nigeria

Sam reports that a Christian man witnessing in a public market was beaten by Muslims, beheaded, and his body dragged through the street.



Julio Ruibal, evangelist, assassinated in Colombia



He refused to let death threats intimidate him. One of 14 pastors killed in Colombia in one year.

Israel denies citizenship to families who are Messianic Jews.



Ricki Kendall and daughter are observant Messianic Jews.

They have been ordered to leave Israel.

Christian bookstore owner murdered!



Rami Ayyad

The owner of Gaza's only Christian bookstore was murdered by Moslems.

This death raised fears among the 3,000 Christians among the 2 million Muslims in the Gaza Strip.

Attacks leave 38 dead on Christmas Weekend

Maiduguri, Nigeria

Dozens of armed men attacked a church, dragging the pastor out of his home and shooting him to death. Two young men rehearsing for a carol service were also slain. About 30 attackers armed with guns and knives killed two people passing by Victory Baptist Church after setting the church and pastor's house ablaze. At least 38 died in Christmas eve attacks across Nigeria.

Be prepared for persecution.



Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery trial comes among you to test you as if something unusual is happening to you." (1 Peter 4:12)

How are we going to handle the world's hostility?



- Face the reality of it.
- Understand the reason for it.
- Respond with love and prayer for the persecutors.
- Rejoice and praise God in the midst of your suffering.



Paul and Silas,
praying and
singing hymns of
praise to God while
the prisoners were
listening to them.
Acts 16:25

*Rejoice in the Lord
always, again I say
rejoice! (Phil. 4:4)*



Cassie Bernall
(1981-1999)

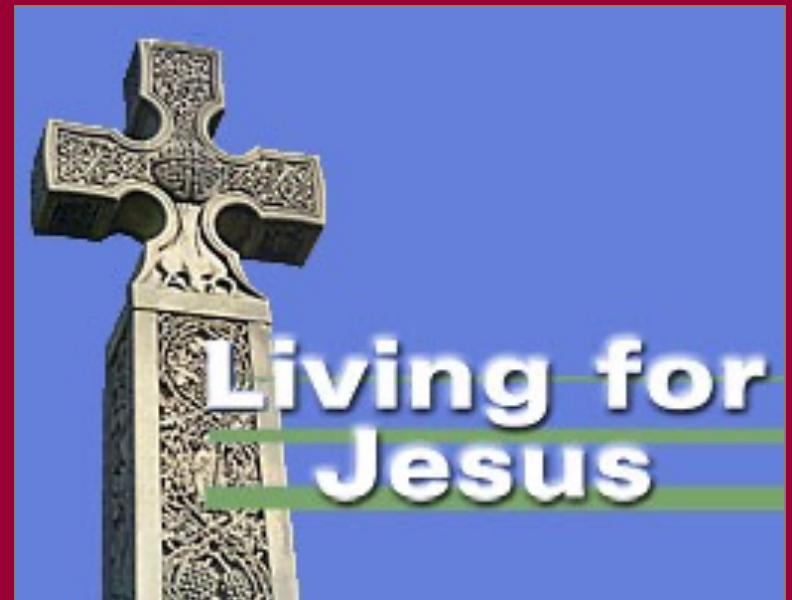
“Do you believe in
God?”

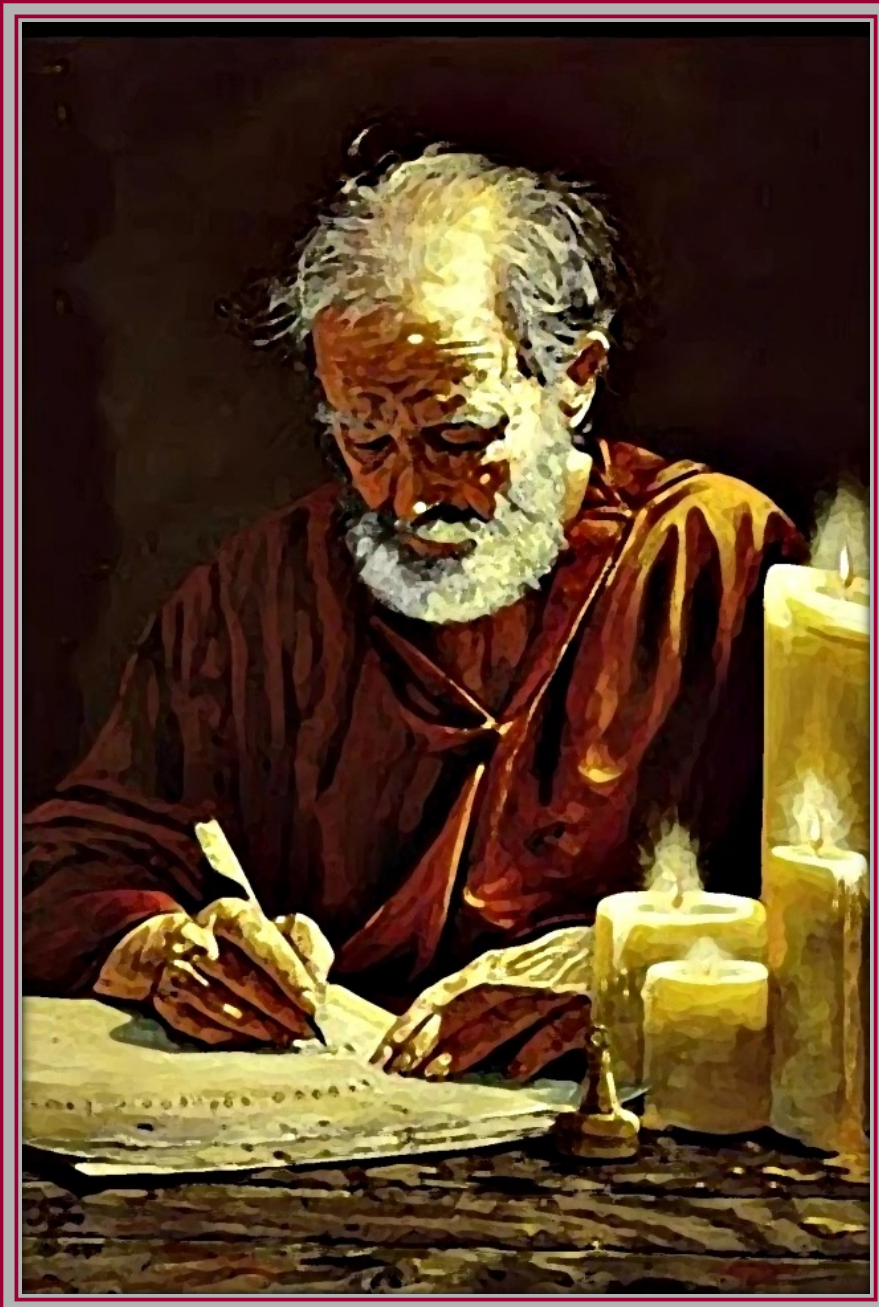
“Yes.”

She was then shot to
death by murderous
gunmen at Columbine
High School.

Am I willing to die for Christ?

How much more
willing ought I be
to live for Him!





I eagerly expect
and hope that
Christ will be
exalted in my
body, whether
by life or *by*
death.

Philippians 1:20