

Matthew 24:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

Analysis

Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted (τότε παραδώσουσιν ὑμᾶς εἰς θλίψιν)—The verb παραδίδωμι (paradidōmi) means "hand over, betray"—the same word used for Judas betraying Jesus. The noun θλίψις (thlipsis) denotes tribulation, pressure, crushing distress—like grapes in a winepress. **And shall kill you** (καὶ ἀποκτενοῦσιν ὑμᾶς) shifts from persecution to martyrdom.

And ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake (ἔσεσθε μισούμενοι ὑπὸ πάντων τῶν ἐθνῶν διὰ τὸ ὄνομά μου)—Universal hatred (πάντων τῶν ἐθνῶν, all nations) because of association with Christ's name. This is cosmic-level opposition, not mere social discomfort. John 15:18-19 explains why: believers no longer belong to the world's system. Church history validates this: disciples were beaten (Acts 5:40), Stephen stoned (Acts 7), James beheaded (Acts 12), and tradition holds all apostles except John died as martyrs.

Historical Context

Persecution began immediately after Pentecost. Nero blamed Christians for Rome's fire (AD 64), leading to brutal executions. Pliny the Younger's letters (AD 112) describe Christians executed merely for the name. Ten major Roman persecutions occurred before Constantine (AD 313). Jewish authorities also persecuted Christians, expelling them from synagogues (John 16:2). Today, Open Doors estimates 360 million Christians face high levels of persecution globally.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How should believers in comfortable contexts prepare spiritually for potential persecution?
2. What does it mean practically to be hated "for my name's sake" versus for being obnoxious or unwise?
3. How can the promise of persecution paradoxically strengthen faith rather than weaken it?

Interlinear Text

τότε	παραδώσουσιν	ὑμᾶς	εἰς	θλίψιν	καὶ	ἀποκτενοῦσιν
Then	shall they deliver	you	to	be afflicted	and	shall kill
G5119	G3860	G5209	G1519	G2347	G2532	G615
ὑμᾶς	καὶ	ἔσεσθε	μισούμενοι	ὑπὸ	πάντων	τῶν ἐθνῶν
you	and	ye shall be	hated	of	all	nations
G5209	G2532	G2071	G3404	G5259	G3956	G3588 G1484
διὰ	τὸ	ὄνομά	μου			
for		name's sake	my			
G1223	G3588	G3686	G3450			

Additional Cross-References

John 16:2 (Parallel theme): They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.

Revelation 2:10 (Parallel theme): Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried;

and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Luke 21:12 (Parallel theme): But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.

Revelation 7:14 (Parallel theme): And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

1 Peter 4:16 (Parallel theme): Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

Revelation 2:13 (Parallel theme): I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

Acts 7:59 (Parallel theme): And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

Matthew 23:34 (Parallel theme): Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city:

Luke 11:49 (Parallel theme): Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they shall slay and persecute:

Acts 28:22 (Parallel theme): But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.