

Bible Study 4 – Relating to unbelievers – Matthew 10:16-23

In November 2012, German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, said that Christians today are the most widely persecuted minority in the world. Christians are officially targeted for harassment or other forms of persecution in 130 countries. This was the highest number for any religion. Just as in times past, they are still being blamed for the ills of society and still face the wrath of mankind who unjustly charge Christians with offences such as sedition or blaspheme.

The context	After Jesus began to preach in Galilee, He chose 12 disciples. Then He preached the sermon on the Mount. After that He healed many, including bringing Jairus's daughter back to life, and calmed a storm. Then He sent out the 12 disciples to preach to the Jews and heal. Our study is a part of a passage where Jesus tells the disciples how to deal with persecution.
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PART 1 Read and summarize each section – Matthew 10:16-23

Arrested (v.16-17)	
Gospel witness (v.18-20)	
Betrayal and hatred (v.21-22)	
Persecution (v.23)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.

2. What I learnt about people like us.

3. Summarise a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. Do you think that opposition always accompanies the spread of the gospel (2 Timothy 3:12)?

If there is no opposition, does it mean the gospel isn't being preached?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

When Jesus sent His followers out to spread the gospel, He warned them of opposition and persecution.



