



### *Though He Slay Me, Yet Will I*

“Life’s not fair, is it?” The villainous Scar, from Disney’s 1994 film, *The Lion King*, laments sarcastically as he toys with the defenseless mouse he prepares to devour. With these words the movie begins, and a chord of truth is struck in the hearts of its viewers. Life does not always seem fair or easy. We can all relate to that feeling of defenselessness, the difficult reality that there will be hard times. If they are not upon us now, they will be. It is true for everybody, Christians and non-Christians alike. Isn’t it wonderful to know that as Christians we can cling to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through the rough times!

We also find though that specifically because of the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ that we demonstrate to the world, we can expect to be persecuted and subjected to suffering. Paul the apostle wrote these words of exhortation to Timothy about what to expect in his role as a leader to the church at Ephesus, “Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (2 Timothy 3:12)” It is not a question of if, but of when. Jesus spoke the same words of preparation to those among the multitude who would choose to follow Him—“Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matt 5:11-12)”

Does this thought that we would be reviled, persecuted, and spoken of falsely, challenge our faith? It should. These inspired words from our loving Father, through His Son and through His servant Paul, should challenge us all to examine ourselves in our commitment as ambassadors for the gospel truth. Are we really willing to put ourselves out there in a way that we never have before, and to continue on when persecution strikes? Put another way, what is it that we are holding back that, if surrendered into the Father’s hands, would open us up to the risk of greater persecution? As Christian leaders, which we all instantly become when we openly proclaim our faith, may we rejoice in the blessings that come when we endure the trials, when our faith is built up, and when a dependency on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God is the example that we live.

*Robert Watkins*

Copyright © 2016 Wildwood Calvary Chapel

Scripture taken from the New King James Version.

Copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

Used by permission. All rights reserved.

