

## sermon notes

### Opposition Toward Followers of Jesus 1 Thessalonians 2:14-16 March 24, 2024

introduction: Jesus was betrayed, arrested, put on trial, and crucified. And ever since, there has been opposition — sometimes violent opposition — toward Jesus' followers.

1. Opposition as a follower of Jesus should be \_\_\_\_ expected \_\_\_\_  
(1 Thessalonians 2:14):

1) expected from what \_\_\_\_ Jesus \_\_\_\_ said when He was on earth (Matthew 5:10-12).

2) expected from what was \_\_\_\_ done \_\_\_\_ to Jesus;  
He was brutally executed (Acts 2:22-23).

3) expected from what was done to Jesus' \_\_\_\_ followers \_\_\_\_ in New Testament days.

supporting Scriptures: Acts chapter 4 (Peter and John)  
Acts chapter 5 (all the apostles)  
Acts chapter 7 (Stephen executed)  
Acts 8:1, 3 (Saul's persecution)

4) expected from what the \_\_\_\_ word of God \_\_\_\_ tells us (1 Timothy 3:12; Philippians 1:29).

5) expected from what has been done to Jesus' followers down through the centuries (for example, read *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*).

6) expected from what is being done \_\_\_\_ in our day \_\_\_\_ to Jesus' followers in parts of the world (Hebrews 13:3).

2. Opposition toward \_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_ Himself is what prompts people to oppose followers of Jesus (1 Thessalonians 2:15-16a).

supporting Scriptures: Acts 7:52-53  
1 Peter 2:24  
1 Peter 3:18  
John 15:18-20  
Acts 9:1-5 (Saul persecuted Jesus)  
1 Timothy 2:3-4  
2 Peter 3:9  
Acts 13:9-11

(continued)

3. God's \_\_\_\_\_ wrath \_\_\_\_\_ will be experienced by those who oppose followers of Jesus — wrath appropriate for their sins (1 Thessalonians 2:16b).

supporting Scriptures: Romans 2:5  
John 3:18  
John 3:36  
1 Thessalonians 1:9-10  
1 Thessalonians 5:9

personal applications:

1. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ retaliate \_\_\_\_\_ when people mistreat you

supporting Scriptures: 1 Peter 2:21-23  
Romans 12:17, 19

2. When you suffer for the Lord's sake, \_\_\_\_\_ commit \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to Him and keep on doing good.

supporting Scriptures: Matthew 5:44  
1 Peter 4:19  
1 Peter 5:10-11  
Romans 8:18  
2 Corinthians 4:17