

The Simple Truth Series # 15

Christophobia



If you took notice of all you are told in the 'News,' you could never believe that 80% of all religious discrimination and persecution worldwide, is against Christians.

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'And expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.' Acts 18:26.

Contents

	Page
1 What is Christophobia?	2.
2 Forms of oppression.	3.
3 Why persecution of Christians?	4.
4 When will it end?	4.
5 The Narrow Way.	5.

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1.

What is Christophobia?

Christophobia means; 'an intolerance of, hostility towards, or discrimination against, Christians.' A 'phobia' is defined as: 'An extreme or irrational fear of, an aversion to, or a dislike of, a specified thing or group.' (e.g. spiders). 'An aversion to, or a dislike of, a specified group,' can also be racism, if it is directed against a particular race, e.g. White South Africans.

Here are some statistics;

Between the 3rd Century A.D., and today, over 100 million Christians have been murdered, many by burning, or torture.

In the 20 years after the Russian Revolution, 95,000 Russian Orthodox Priests were murdered by firing squads, and over 100,000 Churches were burned down.

During the height of Communism, from the 1920's to the 1970's, an average of 330,000 Christians were murdered each year, worldwide.

From the 1970's to the 1990's, an average of 155,000 to 159,000 Christians were murdered each year.

The figures have fallen with the decline of Communism, and the current figures are expressed below.

Over 4000 Christians are killed for their faith every year, an average of 11 per day, mostly in Moslem countries. (Open Doors USA).

245 million Christians experience high levels of persecution for their choice to follow Christ. (1 in 9 Christians worldwide). (Ditto).

11 Countries are 'extreme' in their persecution of Christians, the persecution bordering on, or including, genocide. (Ditto).

For the past 18 years North Korea has consistently ranked No 1 as the world's most dangerous place for Christian's to live. (Ditto).

In 7 out of the 9 worst countries for persecution, the primary cause of persecution is Islamic oppression. (Ditto).

2.

2.

Forms of oppression

Discrimination and persecution of Christians takes many forms. In Anti-God Totalitarian States such as China, North Korea, and other Communist countries, persecution of Christians is Government Policy. In North Korea, Christians are considered a 'hostile element' to be eradicated. (Genocide).

In Afghanistan, Christianity and any other faith except Islam, is not permitted to exist. For conversion to Christianity, the sentence is death in; Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, and Syria. In Western Nations, including England, this sentence is often carried out by family members.

In majority Muslim countries, Christians are banned from holding a Public Office, in Central or Local Government. Public Officials target known Christians for 'infringements,' often infringements of Laws invented on the spot. Shops will not serve them, Police will not protect them, Moslem relations will even shun them. Vandalism of Churches is commonplace, and is often sanctioned, and encouraged by the authorities.

How do the Citizens of a whole Nation grow up with 'an irrational fear of, aversion to, or dislike of,' any Christian they ever meet, as well as all those whom they will never meet? That itself is irrational. Any person who has an 'aversion to, or dislike of' a person, or a specified group of people, who have never abused, threatened, or harmed them personally, has a 'phobia,' and is in need of professional help.

There are women who hate all men, because of something one man has done to them. But blame must be put where blame is due. That one man is guilty, and every other man in the world is innocent. And likewise for men who hate all women, because of something one woman has done. Blame must be put on the guilty party alone.

So, how does a whole Nation grow up hating all Christians, even though the majority have never met any? It begins in schools in Middle Eastern countries, with children being taught to hate Jews, and Americans (who are all seen as Christians). From the first day at school, children are required to chant, "Death to Israel, Death to America". This is a common practice in fundamentalist Moslem Countries, and it is parroted all throughout life.

Pakistan's Blasphemy Law (Black law), gives a death sentence to anyone who 'insults' the 'holy prophet,' in word, gesture, or innuendo. This Law is so far reaching that it is easily abused, and false allegations are accepted, and prosecuted, by Magistrates, who fear a death sentence being passed on them, if they rule otherwise.

In Western Nations, persecution comes in the form of 'polite persecution.' Anything to do with Christianity is erased from the Government sphere of influence, by misguided Political Correctness, which confuses 'Freedom of Religion' with 'Freedom

from Religion.’ Christian Holidays and symbols, are being replaced by New Age or Pagan ones, and Prayer and Bibles are banned in Public Schools.

Judicial Buildings, Schools, Public halls, anything connected to Central or Local Government, is cleansed of anything, except Atheism and Paganism. Christianity is excluded from public discussions and Media debates. Why? To side-line it, and remove it from public thought and conversation. Christians within the Government are ridiculed by the atheistic media, and made to look as if their views aren’t worthy of consideration. This, in Countries that supposedly have protections for Freedom of Religion, and Freedom of Speech. In Truth, any ‘religion’ has freedom and protection, except Christianity, and any ‘religious views’ have freedom, and protection, except Christian ones.

3.

Why persecution of Christian’s?

What is the reason for Christophobia? Why is there so much opposition to Christianity? And why, are Christian’s the most persecuted people on earth? It’s because there is a devil, Satan, who exalts himself above God. He wants God silenced. He wants the Word of God silenced. He wants the people of God silenced.

In Nations that don’t have any semblance of Godliness, the Governments, and the religions are under Satan’s control. He tries to silence the Lord, by banning the Bible, closing or controlling Churches, and by silencing the people of God there.

Atheistic Western Nations are supposedly non-religious, ‘separating Church from State,’ when, in fact, many of them are passing Legislation protecting against ‘Islamophobia,’ but not Christophobia, which makes them anti-Christian, and therefore, anti-God as well. Really, they aren’t non-religious, just non-Christian as their works show.

4.

When will it end?

“In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

“Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the Gospel’s, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.” (Mark 10:29-30).

‘Yea, and all that live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.’ (2 Timothy 3:12).

We are promised persecution if we walk with the Lord Jesus, because, as St Paul taught

us, *'... as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.'* (Galatians 4:29). Those who have not received the grace of God, cannot understand this.

5.

The Narrow Way

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in Heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." (Matthew 5:11-12).

'...being reviled we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it.' (1 Corinthians 4:12).

When we are being persecuted for *'My sake,'* we are exhorted to *"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."* (Matthew 5:44).

To those who know which side they're on, persecution is a blessing. But as the Lord taught us, in the parable of the sower; *"And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the Word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the Word's sake, immediately they are offended."* (Mark 4:16-17).

On stony ground. They heard the Word of God, and were enthused over it. But, it was superficial. They had no roots. Maybe it was just the emotions being stirred, over being in the Presence of God. Then they learn it isn't the picnic they thought it would be. They get offended, when their friends make fun of them. "What, **me** a Christian? No, of course not." And they slink away.

When the Lord told His followers, *"Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you,"* (John 6:53), some murmured, saying, *"This is an hard saying; who can hear it?"* (John 6:60). And we are told, *'from that time many of His followers went back, and walked no more with Him.'* (John 6:66). *'Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the Words of Eternal life.'* (John 6:67-68).

"And ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free." (John 8:32). When you know the Truth, you don't easily give it up. You don't easily turn away. Where else can you go? You endure persecution, because you know *where*, and with *Whom*, you stand. *"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."* (Matthew 7:13-14).

When persecution was unleashed on the early Church after Pentecost, the Disciples

scattered as far away as England, and India, and fulfilled the Lord's command to, ***"Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."*** (Mark 16:15).

Persecution must come, because ***'As then, he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.'*** (Galatians 4:29). But, ***"Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!"*** (Matthew 18:7).

"He that is not with Me is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me scattereth abroad." (Matthew 12:30).

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Ed.D.