

through thicket and thin wood

THROUGH & **THIN**
T H R O & U G H
THICK | **WOOD**

FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

THROUGH THICK AND THIN, keep your hearts at attention, in adoration before Christ, your Master. Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks why you're living the way you are, and always with the utmost courtesy. **1 PETER 3:15 MSG**

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



CHARLES SPURGEON

If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our bodies. And if they will perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If Hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go unwarned and unprayed for.

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

WARNING OF PERSECUTION

9 “When these things begin to happen, watch out! You will be handed over to the local councils and beaten in the synagogues. You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell them about me.¹⁰ For the Good News must first be preached to all nations. **MARK 13:9-10**

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. **1 PETER 4:12**

where they strengthened the believers. They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God. **Acts 14:22**

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

THE EARLY CHURCH WAS MARRIED TO POVERTY, PRISONS AND PERSECUTIONS.

TODAY, THE CHURCH IS MARRIED TO
PROSPERITY, PERSONALITY AND POPULARITY.

LEONARD RAVENHILL

EACH MONTH

SOURCE: OPEN DOORS

322 CHRISTIANS ARE
KILLED FOR THEIR FAITH



214 CHURCHES AND
CHRISTIAN **PROPERTIES**
ARE DESTROYED



772 FORMS OF **VIOLENCE**
ARE COMMITTED AGAINST
CHRISTIANS (SUCH AS BEATINGS, ABDUCTIONS,
RAPES, ARRESTS AND FORCED MARRIAGES)



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE APOSTLES AND WHERE ARE THEIR REMAINS TODAY?



ST. JAMES THE GREATER

DEATH

Stabbed with a sword

REMAINS

St. James Church
Compostela, Spain



ST. JAMES THE LESSER

DEATH

Stoned to death

REMAINS

Holy Apostles Basilica
Rome, Italy



ST. JUDE THADDEUS

DEATH

Filled with arrows

REMAINS

St. Peter's Basilica
Rome, Italy



ST. PHILIP

DEATH

Crucified by soldiers

REMAINS

Holy Apostles Basilica
Rome, Italy



ST. THOMAS

DEATH

Thrust with a spear

REMAINS

Basilica of St. Thomas
the Apostle, Ortona, Italy



ST. PAUL

DEATH

Beheaded in Rome

REMAINS

St. Paul's Church
Rome, Italy



ST. PETER

DEATH

Crucified upside down

REMAINS

St. Peter's Basilica
Rome, Italy



ST. JOHN

DEATH

Died a natural death

REMAINS

Basilica of St. John
Ephesus, Turkey



ST. MATTHEW

DEATH

Stabbed with a sword

REMAINS

Cathedral of Salerno
Salerno, Italy



JUDAS ISCARIOT
THE TRAITOR

DEATH

Committed suicide after
betraying Jesus



ST. SIMON

DEATH

Crucified

REMAINS

Altar of the Crucifixion
Vatican City



ST. BARTHOLOMEW

DEATH

Flayed and beheaded

REMAINS

St. Bartholomew Church
Rome, Italy



ST. ANDREW

DEATH

Crucified on X shaped cross

REMAINS

Cathedral of Amalfi
Amalfi, Italy



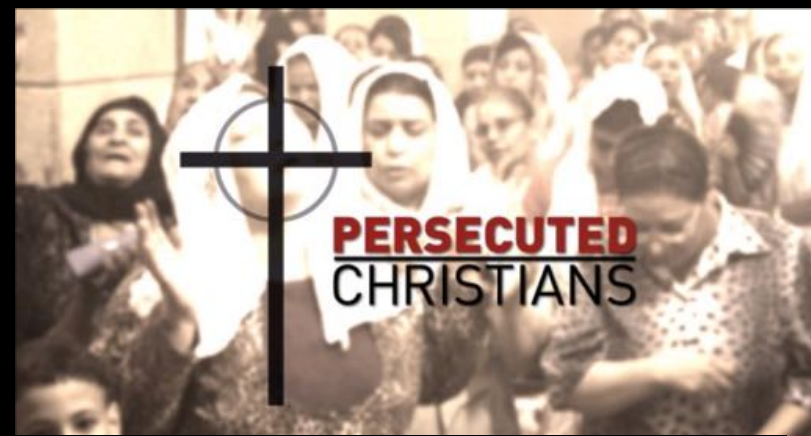
ST. MATTHIAS

DEATH

Crucified in Judea

REMAINS

St. Matthias' Abbey
Trier, Germany



The Greatest Number Of Conversions And The Greatest Moves Of God Are Being Reported Among Our Poverty Stricken, Persecuted Brethren.



Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 2 TIMOTHY 3:12

WARRANTY OF GOD'S PRESENCE

“Unless I am convinced by proofs from Scriptures or by plain and clear reasons and arguments, I can and will not retract, for it is neither safe nor wise to do anything against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen.” **MARTIN LUTHER**

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. MATTHEW 28:20

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

God Promises His Faithful Presence Through Thick And Thin.

¹¹ That night the Lord stood near him and said, “Keep up your courage! For just as you have testified for me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness also in Rome.” ACTS 23:11

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

LESSONS:

- 1. While we are yet to face persecution, let us seize the opportunity to share the Gospel.**
- 2. When persecution comes, be assured the He will empower us to stand for Him, even to the point of death.**

THEME: TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH