

*"Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I Command thee: **Be Not Dismayed At Their Faces**, lest I Confound thee before them. For, behold, I Have Made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brasen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land." **Jeremiah 1:17-18 KJV***

Our Omnipotent Saviour was falsely arrested, Faced the angriest of men without rebuke, Endured false accusations, bloody scourging, scornful buffeting, Drug a heavy, rough-hewn cross through an angry mob shouting, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" and Allowed men to drive spikes through His Hands And Feet. The earth shuddered at the thud of His Cross being dropped into its hole. Hanging between God and man He Cried, "Father, Forgive them! They know not what they do!" Alone in His Moment of bitterest agony He cried, "My God! My God! Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me?" Dear Believer, you may be down, you may be out, but you are never alone! Jesus Knew the depths of loneliness and Vowed to His Own, "Lo, I Am With you Always, even unto the end of the world." His Dying Declaration Was, "It Is Finished!" His Everlasting Covenant Established, Christ Triumphantly Shook Off the chains of evil's greatest weapon, death, like so much dust, and Commanded angels to roll the stone from the empty tomb! It still remains a silent witness to His Omnipotence! "If God Be For us, who can be against us?" Many fear men's reproach more than the Wrath of God. "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD Shall Be Safe." Sadly, believers dish out most of the reproach and the Church has lost its power and testimony, because of envy and bitterness! The world has no indication believers are truly Christ's disciples, because "by this shall all men know that ye are My disciples; if ye have love one to another." Having love is not feeling love. Having love is obedience to God's Word in spite of how you feel. Let your words be few and your impulses quenched in conversations and you will find yourself in a lot less trouble! "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. Abstain from all APPEARANCE of evil."



When evil men at your faith sneer,
Consider not their wicked jeers,
Let not their threats cause you alarm,
Your life is hid in Christ from harm! –CGP

Most believers today are "closet" disciples; afraid they might lose friends, job, or popularity. "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." My Dad used to preach a sermon, "Playing Church." He aptly describes the modern, godless church. Many congregations provide entertainment, not exhortation. Their platform is a stage and they fill it with everything from rock bands to movies to make the world feel at home in their midst! They think to promote Truth with Satan's methods and music and God has written "Ichabod" over their doorways! Many church members will hear on Judgment Day, "Depart from Me, I Never Knew you; ye that work iniquity!"

*"Have not I Commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God Is With thee whithersoever thou goest." **Joshua 1:9 KJV***