

Were the apostles, and others, persecuted without reason, like Jesus said we would be?

Why haven't we experienced more persecution?

1. The more we live like Christ, the more we should expect to suffer like Christ.

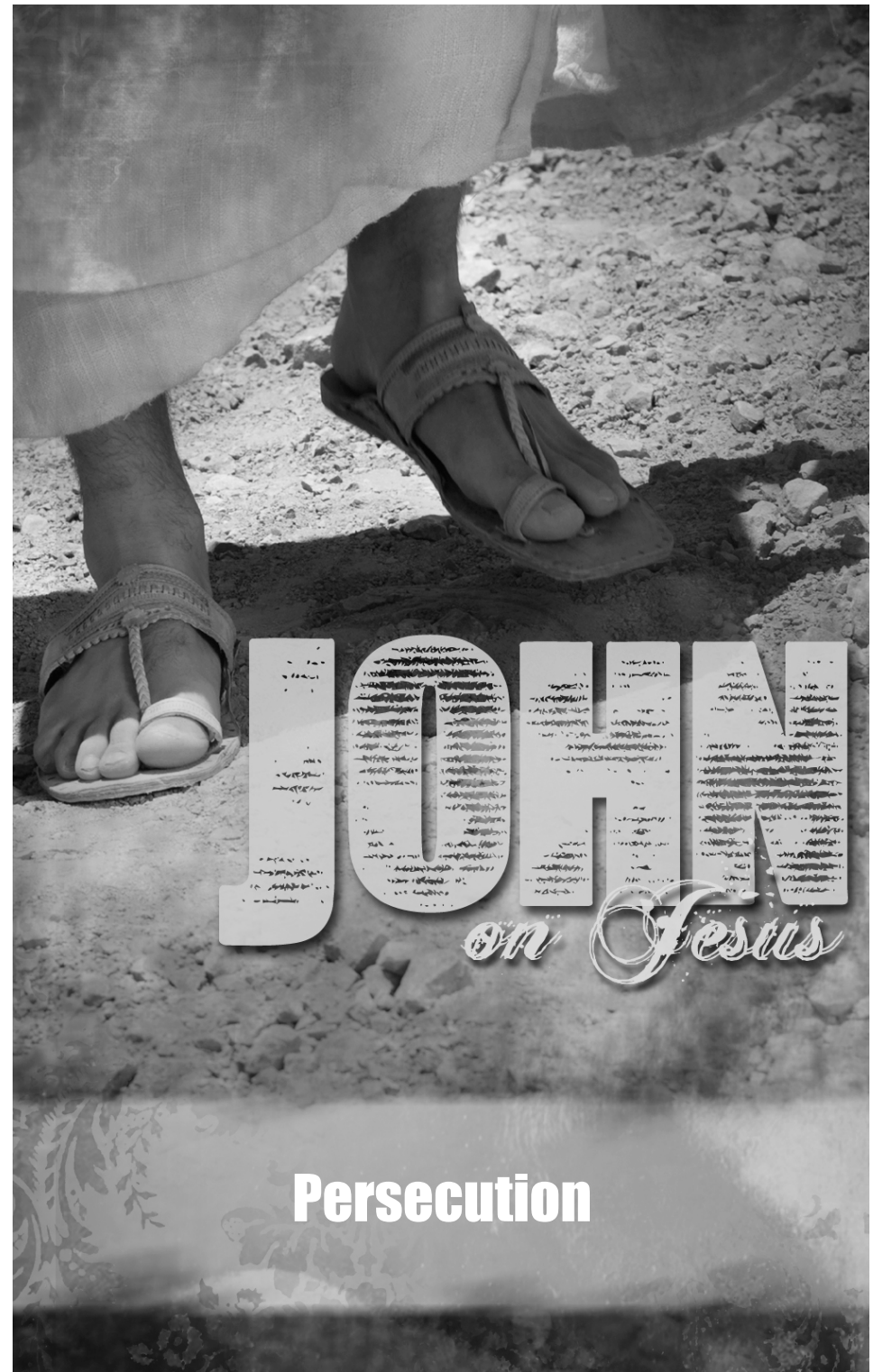
Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, 2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

2. Persecution comes in seasons.

To learn more about the persecuted church - <http://www.persecutionblog.com>;
<http://www.prisoneralert.com>; <http://www.vombooks.com> Books - Jesus Freaks
by DC Talk and Voice of the Martyrs

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Check www.JOHNonJESUS.com for more
All teaching material is also available at www.christ2Rculture.com



Faith Church - EFCA

June 30, 2013

John 15:18-27

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. John 15:18–21 (ESV)

We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. 1 John 5:19 (ESV)

Expect to be hated and suffer.

If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. But the word

that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without a cause.’ John 15:22–25 (ESV)

Expect to be persecuted without reason.

“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. John 15:26–27 (ESV)

When telling others about Jesus, we don’t work alone.

“I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. John 16:1–4 (ESV)

It is not if persecution will come, it is only a matter of when.