

**1. Our Bible Heroes Experienced Far More <u>Hatred</u>...** Yet Continued to <u>Witness</u> and **Spread the Gospel** (2 Corinthians 11:24-28)

### 2 Cor. 11:24 Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.

<sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;

<sup>26</sup> on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;

### <sup>27</sup> in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

# <sup>28</sup> And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.

## 2. God Wants to Use Us to Free Sinners from **Their Sinful <u>Captivity</u>** (Luke 5:27-32)

#### **Sharing Christ With A World That Hates Him** Luke 5:27 After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." <sup>28</sup> And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.

<sup>29</sup> And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them.

#### <sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

<sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

**3. Listen, Be Firm (Not** <u>Argumentative</u>), and Use <u>Scripture</u> to Point the Lost to Jesus (2 Timothy 2:23-26)

2 Timothy 2:23 Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels.

### <sup>24</sup> And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil,

<sup>25</sup> correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,

<sup>26</sup> and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

### 4. Live a Godly Consistent Life (Everything Depends on This!) (Titus 2:7-8; Hebrews 10:23)

Titus 2:7 Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity,

<sup>8</sup> and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

# Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

#### **"IF THE WORLD** HATES YOU, KNOW THAT **IT HAS HATED ME BEFORE** IT HATED YOU." **JESUS CHRIST**

John 15:18