

TRUTH, SOMETIMES REQUIRES YOU TO WALK ALONE

If one walks in the way of truth and conviction, he must be prepared to walk alone, "No man stood with me, but all men forsook me," wrote the battle-scarred apostle Paul in describing his first appearance before Nero to answer for his life for believing and teaching contrary to the then Roman World.

Truth has been out of fashion since man changed his robe of fadeless light for a garment of faded leaves. Noah built and voyaged alone - his neighbors laughed at his strangeness and perished in style. Abraham wandered and worshiped alone - Sodomites smiled as the simple shepherd, followed the fashion and fled the flames. Daniel dined and prayed alone. Jeremiah prophesied and wept alone. Jesus loved and died alone.

On the lonely way His disciples should strive to walk, Jesus said; "Straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life and few there be that find it." Of their treatment by men who walk in the broad way, Jesus said, "If ye were of this world, the world would love its own; but because ye are not of this world, therefore the world hateth you." Peter later stated that because the multitude went in pernicious ways, the Way of Truth would be evil spoken of.

The people in the wilderness praised Abraham and persecuted Moses. The people under the kings praised Moses and persecuted the prophets. The people under Caiaphas praised the prophets and persecuted Jesus. The people under the Popes praised the Savior and persecuted the saints. And multitudes now, in the Church, as well as some of those in the world, applaud the courage of the ancient patriarchs and prophets, the apostles and martyrs, but condemn as stubbornness or foolishness, that very same stance for Truth and Freedom today!

Yours for Truth and Freedom..... Horace Hooper