

This next section (Matt. 10:24-42) deals with instructions for disciples.

Fear not! (Matt 10:26, 28, 31) This specific fear Jesus is talking about is the fear of confessing Jesus is Christ/Lord. (Matt. 10:32-33) Publicly confessing Jesus Christ as Lord is evidence of salvation according to Romans 10: 9-10. "Believe in your heart and confess with your mouth you shall be saved."

Vs. 24 & 25: Suffering/persecution should be expected...

A disciple or a student does not outrank his teacher...

If men persecuted Jesus when he was ministering and doing miracles in their presence, why would we expect anything less from a lost, dying world. Especially now!

They claimed Jesus was working with/for Satan, which is how he was able to do all the miracles.

Who is Beelzebub? A Philistine god, worshiped by people in modern day Gaza. In (2 Kings 1), King Ahaziah of Israel sends messengers to inquire of this god after an injury; the prophet Elijah condemns the act.

Beelzebub literally translates to "Lord of the Flies" "lord of the dung" or "lord of the house".

In the book "Lord of the Flies" a group of British schoolboys crash-land on a deserted island and try to govern themselves. Without adults, their attempt at civilization collapses into fear, violence, and savagery.

The book explores how fragile civilization is when the structures that hold it together disappear. Golding shows that the thin veneer of order can crack, revealing the darker impulses underneath. It is a bleak look at human nature without external constraints.

V. 26-27 God will "expose" or bring everything to light!

26) Deals with the enemies of God. They lied about Jesus at his trial (false witnesses)(gossip and rumors) but God made sure that the truth came out. Matt. 26:59-64

Those who spread lies and do things in secret will be exposed (Rom. 2:16)

27) in John 18:20 Jesus said "I've said nothing in secret"

Our job is not to please man but to please our Father and proclaim his message to the people, even those that do not want to hear it. We are not to fear men, only God!

V. 28 we fear God and only God!

What is the worst men can do, kill the body? And if they do, those of us who believe in Jesus go to heaven to be with God! But God is able to destroy the body and the soul in hell! God will never condemn one of his own children (John 5:24; Rom. 8:1)

The fear of God is the fear that cancels all other fears.

V. 29-31 God takes care of His own!

Sparrows were cheap, insignificant and yet God our Father knows when one of them falls, He is there!

God cares and knows about every detail of our lives. He has even numbered the hairs on our head, not counted but numbered. And some have more than others...

2 Cron 20

Joshua 1:9