

John 16:1-4

John 16:1 *“These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.”*

- A. Jesus did not talk without a purpose (**Matthew 13:10-11** and **Luke 24:44-47**).
 - 1. Jesus isn't an empty talker (**John 12:49-50**; cf. **Psalms 119:130** and **John 6:68**).
 - 2. Vain words are a sign of deceivers (**Jeremiah 23:14-16** and **Ephesians 5:6**).
- B. His purpose was that He did not want the disciples to be offended [“trip up”; Strong's # 4624] (**Matthew 11:6**).
 - 1. Some people actually do stumble because of Christ (**Matthew 13:53-57**, **Matthew 26:31**, **Mark 4:17**, and **John 6:60-67**).
 - 2. Our Lord doesn't want to cause others to fail because of Him (**Matthew 17:24-27**, **Romans 14:21**, and **I Corinthians 8:13**).
 - 3. It is our Lord's desire that all men be saved (**I Timothy 2:4-6**).

John 16:2-3 *“(2) They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. (3) And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.”*

- A. All disciples of the Lord will or have faced persecution (**Psalms 11:2**, **Psalms 37:32**, **Psalms 38:20**, **Psalms 56:4-5**, **Psalms 119:78**, **Psalms 119:110**, **Proverbs 29:10**, **Proverbs 29:27**, **Jeremiah 18:18**, **Matthew 5:10-12**, **Luke 6:22**, **II Thessalonians 1:4-6**, **II Timothy 1:8-12**, **II Timothy 2:8-12**, **II Timothy 3:11-12**, **I Peter 3:14-18**, and **I Peter 4:12-16**).
 - 1. Christians have been and can be persecuted to the point of death (**Acts 7:51-60**, **Acts 12:1-3**, **Romans 8:36**, and **II Corinthians 4:9-11**).
 - 2. One of the big threats that disciples of the Lord faced, when they were Jews, was being cast out of the synagogue (**John 9:18-24** and **John 12:42-43**).
 - 3. Some will persecute Christians and think that they're serving God by doing so (**John 10:30-33** and **Acts 22:3-4**; cf. **Acts 22:1** and **Acts 24:16**).
- B. Those who persecute Christians do so because they don't know the Lord (**John 15:18-21**).
 - 1. Had they known the Lord they wouldn't have killed Him (**I Corinthians 2:7-8**).
 - 2. When one really knows the Lord he or she will obey the Lord (**II Thessalonians 1:7-8** and **I John 2:3-6**).

John 16:4 *“But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.”*

- A. Our Lord's disciples needed to be able to later recall things that Jesus said and did (**Jude 17-18**).
 - 1. The disciples did later recall some things that Jesus wanted them to remember (**Luke 24:6-8**, **John 2:22**, **John 12:16**, and **Acts 11:16**).

2. They will also have help from the Holy Spirit (**John 14:26**).
 3. We too need to remember the things we learn (**I Corinthians 4:17, I Timothy 4:6, II Timothy 2:14, II Peter 1:12, II Peter 3:1-2, and Jude 5**).
- B. Jesus taught them things when they were ready to hear them and when they needed to hear them (**Mark 4:33** and **John 16:12**).
1. Sometimes people are too carnal or too dull of hearing to learn (**I Corinthians 3:1-3** and **Hebrews 5:6-11**).
 2. If someone unlearned and unstable is taught deeper things, they will twist them to their own destruction (**II Peter 3:15-18**).