

## **CHRIST YESHUA NEVER PROMISED HIS FOLLOWERS A CUSHY RETIREMENT**

**Serving Christ Yeshua isn't a walk in the park. Many of the greatest spiritual leaders in the Bible suffered greatly for their faith. Here's a list of how they were treated and how they died:**

### **Old Testament Prophets**

- 1. Moses – Rejected by his people multiple times, wandered the wilderness for 40 years, and died alone on Mount Nebo (Deuteronomy 34:5-6).**
- 2. Elijah – Persecuted by King Ahab and Queen Jezebel, had to flee for his life (1 Kings 19), but was later taken up to heaven in a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:11).**
- 3. Isaiah – According to tradition, he was sawn in half under King Manasseh's rule (Hebrews 11:37).**
- 4. Jeremiah – Beaten, imprisoned, and thrown into a muddy cistern (Jeremiah 38:6). According to tradition, he was stoned to death in Egypt.**
- 5. Ezekiel – Killed by the people he prophesied against.**
- 6. Zechariah – Stoned to death in the temple court (2 Chronicles 24:20-21).**

### **New Testament Leaders**

- 1. John the Baptist – Beheaded by King Herod (Mark 6:17-29).**
- 2. YESHUA CHRIST – Beaten, mocked, whipped, crucified, and bore the sins of the world (Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 19).**

### **The Apostles**

- 1. Peter – Crucified upside down in Rome under Nero.**
- 2. James (son of Zebedee) – Beheaded by King Herod Agrippa I (Acts 12:1-2).**
- 3. John – The only apostle who wasn't martyred, but he was boiled in oil (survived), exiled to Patmos, and suffered greatly.**
- 4. Andrew – Crucified on an X-shaped cross in Greece.**
- 5. Philip – Crucified upside down.**
- 6. Bartholomew (Nathanael) – Flayed alive and then beheaded.**
- 7. Thomas – Speared to death in India.**

8. Matthew – Stabbed to death in Ethiopia.
9. James (son of Alphaeus) – Stoned and clubbed to death.
10. Thaddaeus (Jude) – Beaten to death.
11. Simon the Zealot – Either crucified or sawed in half.
12. Matthias (replaced Judas) – Burned alive.

### Other Early Christian Leaders

1. Paul – Beheaded in Rome under Nero (2 Timothy 4:6-8).
2. Stephen – Stoned to death (Acts 7:54-60).

### Conclusion

Serving Christ means picking up our cross daily (Luke 9:23). Satan is called “the god of this world” (2 Corinthians 4:4), and he hates the truth. That’s why true followers of Christ will always face opposition. The road isn’t easy, but the reward is eternal (Romans 8:18).

**YESHUA** warned us:

“In this world, you will have tribulation. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” – John 16:33

The question isn’t *if* we will suffer for Christ—it’s *when and how*. But for those who endure, the crown of life awaits (James 1:12).

### **John 15**”18-25 The World Hates the Disciples

<sup>18</sup> “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first. <sup>19</sup> If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. <sup>20</sup> Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’<sup>[a]</sup> If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed My teaching, they will obey yours also. <sup>21</sup> They will treat you this way because of My name, for they do not know the One who sent Me.

<sup>22</sup> If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. <sup>23</sup> Whoever hates Me hates my Father as well. <sup>24</sup> If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me

and my Father.<sup>25</sup> But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: ‘They hated Me without reason.’<sup>[b]</sup>



**PSALMS 23**