

Would there be enough evidence

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Isaiah 50:4-9a		
Psalms 31:9-16		
Philippians 2:5-11		
Mark 14:1-15:47		

Would there be enough evidence

I cannot remember the year; I cannot remember the preacher;

I cannot remember the church;

But I absolutely remember the question.

{Pause} Please be seated {Pause}

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The question was this: If the government attempted

To prosecute you today, for being a Christian,

Would they find enough evidence to convict you. /////

Again, I do not know when the question was raised,

I do not know who raised it; I don't know how old I was,

But to this day, I still ask that question. /////

// Perhaps second to the Gospel reading of the sheep & the goats,

Where Christ turns to those on his right & says,

“Come you who are blessed by my Father;

“Take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you

“Since the creation of the world, for I was hungry, and

“You gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and

“You gave me something to drink; I was a stranger, and

“You invited me in, a stranger, a prisoner, etc. ...”

And then Jesus turns to those on his left and says the opposite.

Would there be enough evidence



Only second to the saying of that Gospel (Matthew 25),

There is forever a voice in the back of my head that asks:

If the government attempted to prosecute you today,

For being a Christian, Would they find

Enough evidence to convict you.



There is a lot to that very nagging question (at least for me).

First, it acknowledges that no matter how difficult I may think

That being a Christian may be;

My Christian Experience can never be as brave as

The experience of the disciples.

They did not experience the level of freedom that we possess today.

Most of them followed our Lord & Savior to gruesome deaths

Resembling that of Jesus Christ himself.

The phrase “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself,

“And take up his cross and follow me...

“For whoever would save his life will lose it,

“But whoever loses his life will find it. For what does it

“Profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul.”

Would there be enough evidence



Palm Sunday is a stark reminder of how fickle our hearts truly are.

We are told at the beginning of our liturgy for today,

That the people spread their cloaks on the road, and

Others spread leafy branches, and all were shouting:

“Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”



This event is the nonminer for the day we celebrate today!

As we beat the bounds of our property singing:

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor, to Thee Eternal King!”

Yet at the same time that I sing, & I proclaim, & I acknowledge

Jesus Christ as my Lord, as my King, and as my Savior,

I cannot help but wonder... If they came to get me,

For being a Christian, would they even have

The evidence to convict me.

(Is there evidence enough to convict myself)



The people, who today seem to fully understand Christ's

Rightful place upon the throne of their hearts, and

Upon the throne of the seat of Israel,

Will (as the words of Jesus start getting tough)

Quickly abandon him on this Friday,

Screaming 'Crucify Him, Crucify Him!'

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These are the words that we also remember on Bi-Polar Sunday

(Oops—sorry—Palm Sunday). The fickleness of our hearts,

Which complains of a lack of food during the exodus,

While the juices of quail are dripping from their mouths.

The fickleness of our hearts that sees Lazarus raised from the dead,

Then proclaims Christ as our Lord and Savior, spreading palms,

The fickleness of our hearts that hungrily quests for the King of Israel,

To be crucified on a horrific cross; we cannot bear to see him! ///

Oh, most hallowed Fickle People Sunday, & Fickle People Week.

We have proclaimed Christ as our King,

(And tomorrow we are surprised when he clears the temple)

Is Christ the Lord, Master, & King of your everything,

(Your money, your treasure, & all your possessions) →

Listen an excerpt from Mathew 19: Jesus said, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” And when the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

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We proclaim Christ as our King, and Tuesday, we are upset, as he Sees through our hypocrisy and lawlessness.

Listen to an excerpt from Mathew 19: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. So, you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. //////////////////////////////////////

We proclaim Christ as our King, but do we fully worship him:

Listen to an excerpt from Luke 7: Jesus said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered into your house. You did not give me water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears & wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but from the time I entered, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with olive oil, but she anointed my feet with perfumed oil. For this reason I tell you, her sins—which were many—have been forgiven, for she loved much. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little.

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If the government attempted to prosecute you today, for being
A Christian, would they find enough evidence to convict.

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In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the HS. Amen.
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Our Service Continues with The Prayers of the People, pg 328