

Jesus Came To Bring A Sword

Matthew 10:34, "Think not that I came to send peace on the earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword"

Background

- Twelve selected to be apostles. Matthew 10:1-4
- Told how to conduct themselves. Matthew 10:5-15
- Warned them how they would be treated. Matthew 10:16-23
- Encouraged them ... men had despised Him and so would hate his servants. cf. John 15:18-27
 - Hated without cause. John 15:25

Background

- Brother shall deliver up brother. Matthew 10:21-22
- Do not be afraid. Matthew 10:28-29
- "I came not to send peace, but a sword." Matthew 10:34
 - Came to give "division." cf. Luke 12:51-53

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Jesus persecuted from the beginning: Matthew 2:13-14

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 4:28-29, "And they were all filled with wrath in the synagogue, as they heard these things; and they rose up, and cast him forth out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might throw him down headlong."
- Luke 6:11, "But they were filled with madness; and communed one with another what they might do to Jesus."
- Luke 7:34, "The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold, a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!"

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 11:15, "But some of them said, By Beelzebub the prince of the demons casteth he out demons."
- Luke 11:53-54, "And when he was come out from thence, the scribes and the Pharisees began to press upon (him) vehemently, and to provoke him to speak of many things; laying wait for him, to catch something out of his mouth."
- Luke 13:31, "In that very hour there came certain Pharisees, saying to him, Get thee out, and go hence: for Herod would fain kill thee."

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 19:14, “But his citizens hated him, and sent an embassy after him, saying, We will not that this man reign over us.”
- Luke 19:47, “And he was teaching daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people sought to destroy him”
- Luke 20:20, “And they watched him, and sent forth spies, who feigned themselves to be righteous, that they might take hold of his speech, so as to deliver him up to the rule and to the authority of the governor.”

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 22:2-5, “And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might put him to death; for they feared the people. And Satan entered into Judas who was called Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went away, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might deliver him unto them. And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money.”

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 22:52-53, “And Jesus said unto the chief priests, and captains of the temple, and elders, that were come against him, Are ye come out, as against a robber, with swords and staves? When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched not forth your hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 22:63-65, “And the men that held (Jesus) mocked him, and beat him. And they blindfolded him, and asked him, saying, Prophecy: who is he that struck thee? And many other things spake they against him, reviling him.”

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- Luke 23:11, “And Herod with his soldiers set him at nought, and mocked him, and arraying him in gorgeous apparel sent him back to Pilate.”
- Luke 23:23-24, “But they were urgent with loud voices, asking that he might be crucified. And their voices prevailed. And Pilate gave sentence that what they asked for should be done.”

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- The persecutions of the Lord were central to the preaching of the apostles.
Acts 2:23; Acts 3:12-15; Acts 4:27-29; Acts 7:52; Acts 13:27-29; Heb 12:2-3; 1 Peter 4:1

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

Apostles persecuted.

Acts 5:40, "And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles unto them, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go."

1 Corinthians 4:9, "For, I think, God hath set forth us the apostles last of all, as men doomed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, both to angels and men."

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

2 Corinthians 4:8, "(we are) pressed on every side, yet not straitened; perplexed, yet not unto despair"

2 Corinthians 6:4, "but in everything commending ourselves, as ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses"

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

2 Corinthians 6:8, "by glory and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and (yet) true"

Galatians 6:17, "Henceforth, let no man trouble me; for I bear branded on my body the marks of Jesus."

cf. 2 Corinthians 11:23-27

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

2 Timothy 1:8, "Be not ashamed therefore of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but suffer hardship with the gospel according to the power of God"

2 Timothy 1:12, "For which cause I suffer also these things: yet I am not ashamed; for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed unto him against that day."

2 Timothy 3:12, "Yea, and all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

Historically The Coming Of Christ Brought A Sword

- James beheaded. Acts 12:1-3
- Peter imprisoned. Acts 12:3
- Antipas killed. Revelation 2:13
- Paul persecuted. 2 Corinthians 11:23ff

- cf. Matthew 5:10-12

Socially, The Presence Of Christ Brings A Sword

- Separation of family. Matthew 10:35-39; Galatians 1:13-14
- Separation of brethren. cf. 1 Corinthians 5:9-11; 2 Thessalonians 3:6

Spiritually, The Presence Of Christ Brings A Sword

- The Word of God is sharper than a two-edged sword. Hebrews 4:12
- Discerns good and evil with us. Matthew 15:18-20; Proverbs 4:23; Proverbs 23:7; cf. Colossians 3:16; cf. Hebrews 5:11-14
- It cuts through every part of man. cf. 2 Samuel 12:1-7; Acts 2:37
- It cuts through old habits; it opposes sin. cf. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- It sets a new standard. Ephesians 4:17-20; 1 Peter 4:1-6

Spiritually, The Presence Of Christ Brings A Sword

- The old man will not die without a struggle; he fights against the new man. Romans 6:3-7,12; 7:15-24
- Thus, the heart of the Christian becomes a battlefield. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Conclusion:

- “Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.” 1 Corinthians 16:13
- “If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.” Luke 9:23
- “Yea, and all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” 2 Timothy 3:12

Conclusion:

Jesus came to bring a sword...

- 2 Timothy 2:3, “Suffer hardship with (me), as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”
- 1 Timothy 6:12, “Fight the good fight of the faith, lay hold on the life eternal”

Conclusion:

Jesus came to bring a sword...

- With Jesus that meant punishment unto death.
- With the apostles that meant punishment unto death.
- May mean our worst enemies will be they of our own household.
- May mean internal turmoil.