

March 15, 2024

## IF ONLY SOMEONE WOULD HAVE WARNED ME

**(Jesus said) “They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.” John 16:2 (ESV)**

How many times in your life have you uttered the words or thought to yourself “man, I wish someone had warned me about that”? If you are like me, hundreds of times. Since none of us is clairvoyant, we must rely on past experiences, advice from others, or our own gut feelings when faced with problematic situations and/or tough decisions. Sometimes things just happen unexpectedly with no notice or time to ponder. How nice it would be, especially if the outcome isn’t what we expected, to have been “warned” in advance. During the four years our son was being treated for leukemia, there were many decisions that had to be made about his treatment with limited information available about the outcome possibilities. The “if only someone would have warned me” thoughts were present frequently.

Jesus, however, is clairvoyant and did not want the disciples to be rudely awakened. This Bible passage, and several prior to and following it, tell us about one of many attempts Jesus made trying to prepare the apostles for what they will be facing after his eminent departure. Up to now, it was Jesus who shouldered the brunt of the torment and ridicule from the Pharisees and was a buffer between them and his disciples. That burden would soon be directed at and against the disciples once Jesus was gone.

***Prayer:*** Dear Heavenly Father, help us to always come to You for guidance when we need it. You have given us a look into eternity for those who follow Your Word and those who do not. Help us to take Your guidance to heart and follow it. Amen

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