

**THE BIGOT'S CREED**

Believe as I believe- no more, no less;  
That I am right, and no one else, confess;  
    Feel as I feel, think only as I think;  
Eat what I eat, and drink but what I drink;  
    Look as I look, do always as I do;  
And, only then, I'll fellowship with you.

That I am right, and always right, I know,  
Because my own convictions tell me so;  
    And to be right is simply this: to be  
    Entirely and in all respects like me.  
    To deviate a jot, or to begin  
To question, doubt, or hesitate, is sin.

Let sink the drowning man, if he'll not swim  
Upon the plank that I throw out to him;  
Let starve the famishing, if he'll not eat  
My kind and quantity of bread and meat;  
Let freeze the naked, too, if he'll not be  
Supplied with garments such as made for me.

'Twere better that the sick should die than live,  
    Unless they take the medicine I give;  
'Twere better sinners perish than refuse  
    To be conformed to my peculiar views.  
'Twere better that the world stood still than move  
    In any way that I do not approve.

*The Foundation Bible Lessons*

**PART 10:**

**Christian Liberty**

**Topic: Who Persecute and Why**

**Lesson: 108**

**Part B**

**Volume: 10**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

Foundation Progressive Sabbath Advent Ministries (FPSAM), Inc. exists to build upon the four **PILLARS** (*Mental, Physical, Spiritual and Social*) that **GUIDED** Jesus' life.

**VISION**

All Foundation Progressive Sabbath Advent Ministries (FPSAM), Inc. members will use the four pillars to establish and build their personal life and that of others.

**SLOGAN**

"Don't Accommodate Eliminate"

**MOTTO**

"Building on FOUR"

**TEXT**

"And Jesus increased in wisdom (Mental) and stature (Physical & Spiritual), and in favor with God (Spiritual) and man (Social)." **Luke 2:52**

**WEBSITE**

**[www.fpsam.org](http://www.fpsam.org)**

**Notes:** Some or the reasons given in justification of persecution may be noted in the following quotations:-

"The state cannot afford to permit religious liberty. We hear a great deal about religious tolerance, but we are only tolerant in so far as we are not interested. A person may be tolerant toward a religion if he is not religious. . . . Intolerance means fervor and zeal. The best the state can do is to establish a limited religious liberty; but beyond a certain degree of tolerance the state cannot afford to admit the doctrine."

**Monsignor Russell (Catholic), quoted in Washington Post, May 5, 1910.**

"The church has persecuted. Only a tyro in church history will deny that. . . . We have always defended the persecution of the Huguenots, and the Spanish Inquisition. When she thinks it good to use physical force, she will use it. . . . But will the Catholic Church give bond that she will not persecute at all? Will she guarantee absolute freedom and equality of all churches and all faiths? The Catholic Church gives no bonds for her good behavior."- **Editorial in Western Watchman (Catholic), of St. Louis, Mo., Dec.24,1908.**

"The Inquisition was a very merciful tribunal; I repeat it, almost a compassionate tribunal. . . . A man was only allowed to be racked once, which no one can deny was a most wonderful leniency in those times."- **Catholic Mirror, official organ of Cardinal Gibbons, Aug. 29, 1896.**

"We confess that the Roman Catholic Church is intolerant; that is to say, that it uses all the means in its power for the extirpation of error and sin; but this intolerance is the logical and necessary consequence of her infallibility. She alone has the right to be intolerant, because she alone has the truth. The church tolerates heretics where she is obliged to do so, but she hates them mortally, and employs all her force to secure their annihilation."- **Shepherd of the Valley (St. Louis, Mo.), 1876.**

This erroneous position has been well refuted by Lord Macaulay in the following words: "The doctrine which, from the very first origin of religious dissensions, has been held by all bigots of all sects, when condensed into few words and stripped of rhetorical disguise, is simply this: I am in the right, and you are in the wrong. When you are the stronger, you ought to tolerate me; for it is your duty to tolerate truth. But when I am the stronger, I shall persecute you; for it is my duty to persecute error."- **Essay on "Sir James Mackintosh."**

**Notes:** Benjamin Franklin well said: "When religion is good it will take care of itself; when it is not able to take care of itself, and God does not see fit to take care of it, so that it has to appeal to the civil power for support, it is evidence to my mind that its cause is a bad one."

**Letter to Dr. Price.**

**John Wesley gave the following Christian advice:** "Condemn no man for not thinking as you think. Let every one enjoy the full and free liberty of thinking for himself. Let every man use his own judgment, since every man must give an account of himself to God. Abhor every approach, in any kind or degree, to the spirit of persecution. If you cannot reason nor persuade a man into the truth, never attempt to force a man into it. **If love will not compel him to come, leave him to God, the Judge of all.**"

## 12. What does Christ say of those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake?

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." **Matthew 5:10-12. See Revelation 2:10; Revelation 6:9-11**

"In the furnace God may prove thee,  
Thence to bring thee forth more bright;  
But He can never cease to love thee;  
Thou art precious in His sight:  
God is with thee,  
God, thine everlasting light."

## 13. What divine precepts received and obeyed would do way with all oppression and persecution?

"Thou shalt \_\_\_\_\_ thy neighbor as thyself." **Matthew 22:39**

"All things whatsoever ye would that men should \_\_\_\_\_ to you, do ye even so to them." **Matthew 7:12**

## 14. What does love not do?

"\_\_\_\_\_ worketh no \_\_\_\_\_ to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law." **Romans 13:10**