

## The Way, Jesus and Violence

Luke 9:51-56 (NKJV)

*Jesus did not compromise his beliefs, but neither did He incinerate the opposition.*

**Josephus, the Historian, and Paul, Christian missionary  
may have been in Rome together around 64 A.D.**

### Extremist revolutionaries of Jesus' time

- Josephus lists 5 groups of Zealots in Galilee
- The book of Acts lists 2: Acts 5:36, Acts 21:38
- The Jewish Talmud identifies over 24 sects committed to armed revolt against Rome.
- Two of Jesus' disciples may have had revolutionary ties.  
(Judas Iscariot & Simon the Zealot)

### 1. We live in a **violent** culture

*"Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and  
consume them, just as Elijah did?"* —Luke 9:54b (NKJV)

History -

The Bible -

Koran -

Christian -

American -

### 2. We must not **compromise** the Gospel.

*He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem.* —Luke 9:51b (NKJV)

### Violent Background to the Triumphal Entry

- Hot-tempered disciples, Sons of Thunder, James and John,
- Jesus comes from Galilee

Can anything good come from Galilee?

Hotbed for terrorists

- Simon the Zealot, Judas, man of the dagger

### Joseph ben Mattathias becomes Flavius Josephus Compromise over honor

Message of Palm Sunday is of a:

- Humble and **Gentle** King
- Self-sacrificing Revolution
- Kingdom based on **Love** of God and Neighbor.

### 3. We overcome in the **power** of God's Holy Spirit

*But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of."*  
—Luke 9:55 (NKJV)

The same passion, ομοθυμαδον *homothumadon*

- The same passion in **prayer**.  
Acts 1:14, "They all joined together constantly in prayer..."
- The same passion in **mission**.  
Acts 4:24, 29-30, When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God...
- The same passion in **worship**.  
Acts 5:12, Acts 8:6,8
- The same passion in on the **One Faith**.  
Acts 15:25, "So we all agreed to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul"
- With one passion, we **glorify** the One way, Jesus.  
Romans 15:6, With one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Paul, ready to die in a Roman prison, "*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings...*" —Philippians 3:10