

He Reigns . He Returns . He Wins!

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Revelation 2:8-11

Faithfulness in the Face of Fear

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ...²⁰ ... ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ **If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.**

John 15:18a, 20b

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. **In the world you will have tribulation.** But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

John 16:33

Christian Remains with Persecutors to Share the Gospel Nigeria



Christian Escapes Being Burned Alive Nigeria





WORLD WATCH LIST 2025

PERSECUTION LEVELS

HIGH

41-60 points

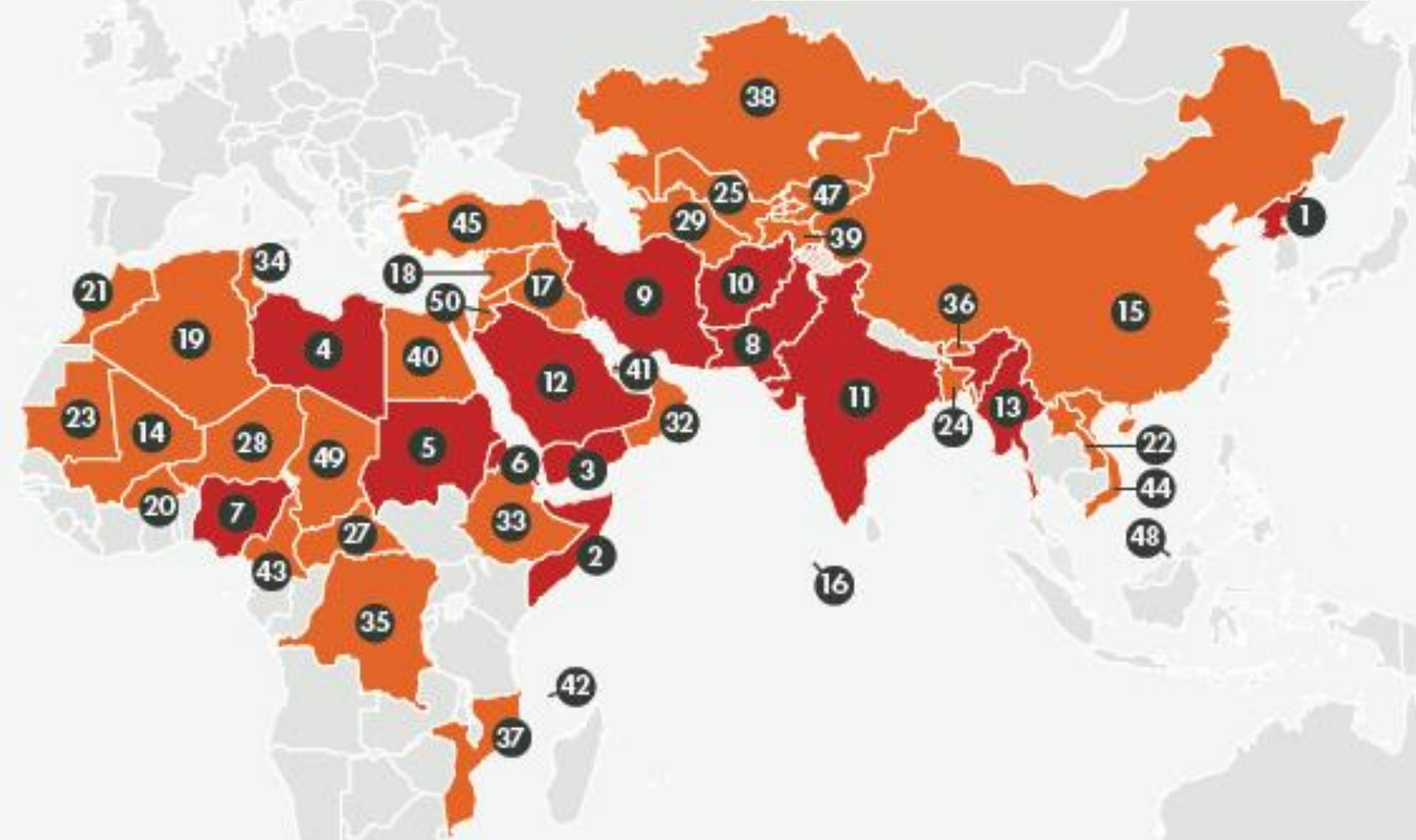
VERY HIGH

61-80 points

EXTREME

81-100 points

Every country on the list is ranked as having very high or extreme levels of persecution, showing the intensity of persecution against Christians.




The World Watch List is compiled by Open Doors' analysts using real-world data from experts on the ground in 150 countries.

¹⁹ Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.

- The Vision of Christ. Revelation 1
- The Churches of Christ. Revelation 2-3
- The Consummation of Christ. Revelation 4-22

Patmos and the Seven Churches

 Presumed route by which John's letter was circulated among the seven churches



0 25mi
0 25km

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The Church .

⁸“And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:



The Character of Christ .

⁸“And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last,
¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Revelation 1:17-18

In fact, everything about our lives ---our attitudes, motives, desires, actions, and even our words---is influenced by our view of God. Whether our problems are financial, moral, or emotional, whether we are tempted by lust, worry, anger, or insecurity, our behavior reflects our beliefs about God. What we believe to be true about God's character affects our friendships, our work and leisure activities...”

Bill Bright

The low view of God entertained almost universally among Christians is the cause of a hundred lesser evils everywhere among us. With our loss of the sense of majesty has come the further loss of religious awe and the consciousness of the divine presence...It is impossible to keep our moral practices sound and our inward attitudes right [including our attitude toward tribulation... It is impossible to keep our inward attitudes right] while our idea of God is erroneous or inadequate. If we would bring back power to our lives, we must begin to think of God more nearly as He is."

A.W. Tozer

The Commendation of Christ.

⁹“ ‘I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.



The Commendation of Christ.

⁹“ ‘I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires.

John 8:44

The Command of Christ.

¹⁰ **Do not fear** what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. **Be faithful** unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.



Develop faith & faithfulness by

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- 1. Focusing more on the character of Christ over than your fear.**

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2. Take comfort that Christ understands our suffering.

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3. Rest in the riches of life in Christ.

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Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:14

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