

# Early Martyr Testimony

by Clement of Rome

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of perseverance in faith, highlighting the examples of martyrs in the early church and the rewards of steadfastness in the face of adversity.*

**Scripture:** Genesis 2:23, Proverbs 14:30, Hebrews 12:1, James 3:16

**Topics:** "Persecution", "Envy"

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## Description

Clement of Rome preaches about the impact of envy on individuals and societies, highlighting the endurance and faith of those who faced persecution and torture. He emphasizes the examples set by holy men and a multitude of elect who persevered through challenges. Envy has led to the downfall of relationships, cities, and nations, illustrating the destructive power of this emotion.

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## Transcript

To these men who spent their lives in the practice of holiness, there is to be added a great multitude of the elect, who, having through envy endured many indignities and tortures, furnished us with a most excellent example.

Through envy, those women, the Danaids and Dircae, being persecuted, after they had suffered terrible and unspeakable torments, finished the course of their faith with steadfastness, and though weak in body, received a noble reward. Envy has alienated wives from their husbands, and changed that saying of our father Adam, "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh." Envy and strife have overthrown great cities and rooted up mighty nations.

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