

Saul stood by approvingly as  
Stephen was stoned to death.

Saul's murderous threats and vicious attacks scattered the church from Jerusalem.

But like the seeds of a dandelion,  
the scattered Church only spread.

One day as Saul was on his way to destroy the church in Damascus, he had an encounter with the resurrected Jesus.

And Saul the church destroyer  
became Paul, the Apostle and  
church planter.

Through the ages there have been countless attempts to destroy the Church.

In the third century, the persecution of Christians which had been sporadic...

became common throughout the  
Roman Empire.



Emperor Decius intended to stomp out Christianity altogether.

He ordered churches to be  
burned, Scriptures to be  
confiscated, clergy to be  
tortured...

and Christian civil servants to be deprived of their citizenship and, if stubbornly unrepentant, executed.

But the Roman Empire could not  
stop Christ's Church!

In the midst of the enlightenment,  
when the Christian understanding  
of God was being undermined...

Voltaire proclaimed that within twenty-five years the Bible would be forgotten and Christianity would be a thing of the past.

Forty years after his death in 1778, the Bible and other Christian literature were being printed in what had once been Voltaire's home.

Still today, with the resurrection power of Christ, Jesus' Church cannot be stopped!



In China, where Christianity has  
been outlawed for nearly 60  
years...

there are more Christians today in  
China than there were 60 years  
ago.

In spite of government persecution, China now has the largest number of Christians on the planet.

Even here in Tarrytown, by God's power and grace, a church gutted by a fire 18 years ago...

has risen from the ashes to be a vibrant force for God in the community.

Did Jesus really rise from the dead?

Take a look at Jesus' church.

“If it is from God, you will not be able to stop these people; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.”

Gamaliel

Jewish Rabbi