
Westminster Abbey

Learning



Modern Martyrs: Wang Zhiming

Born: c. 1907

Died: 29th December 1973

Occupation: Priest

Biography

He was born in Wuding county, China. He was a teacher for ten years before becoming a priest in 1951.

From 1966 to 1976, the Cultural Revolution in China was a campaign to break free of the past and to create a new society, which would reject religion. Churches were closed and Christians were forced to meet in secret. As a priest, Wang Zhiming spoke out against this campaign to reject religion and was arrested.

Wang Zhiming was executed at a mass rally of more than 10,000 people. Years later, the policy to reject religion failed. Wang Zhiming is remembered by Christians in churches in China today.

Activities

In 1981, a statue was built for Wang Zhiming in China, which includes the words:

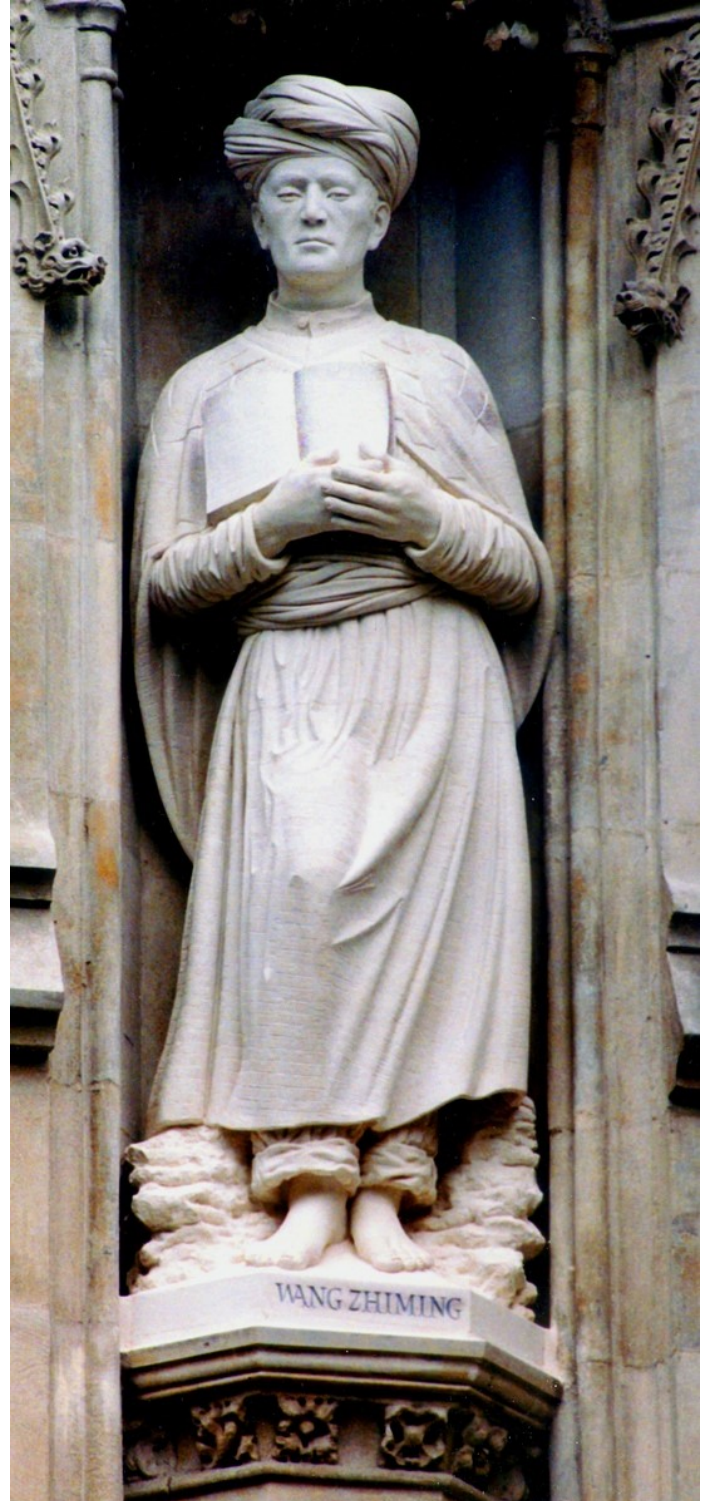
“As the Scripture says of the Saints, “They will rest from their labours for their deeds follow them.”

Discuss this statement with a partner. Why do you think these words were chosen for Wang Zhiming’s statue? How does that make you feel?

“So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.” (Galatians 6:9)

Discuss this Bible passage with a partner. How is this passage similar to the quotation on Wang Zhiming’s statue in China?

Write a paragraph about what people can learn from the behaviour and teachings of Wang Zhiming.



For teachers:

We recommend you read our "[Introducing Modern Martyrs: primary teachers' guide](#)" before using this activity sheet.

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