

**“Who is Jesus?”: Hated
John 15:17-16:4a**

Introduction:

- After comforting his disciples in Chp.14, Jesus and His followers move on and He emphasizes the importance of abiding in Christ. Then He speaks of His friendship with them based on His choosing them. As well, He commands them to love one another.
- Now, Christ gives them instruction regarding their common enemies. Since their being joined with Christ comforts them, they now must understand that they are (and we are) joined with Christ as enemies of the world.

Causes for Hatred by the World (vv.17-25)

A) Association (vv.17-20)

- a. Associate with one another
- b. Association with Christ brings hatred
 - i. **1 John 3:13**, *“Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.”*
 - ii. Chosen out of the World (to specifically elect out of the cosmos – the greater order of God’s creation...men)
 - iii. **John 13:1**, *“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.”*
 - iv. **John 13:16-18**, *“16 Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. 18 I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, ‘He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.’”*
 - v. Once alien to Christ (**Eph.2:1-3**)
 - vi. Now friends with Christ (**John 15:15-17**)

B) Accounting (v.21)

- a. The name of Christ (His authority - offense)
- b. The identity of God
- c. NOT on account of being hateful

C) Accountability (vv.22-25)

- a. Guilty of Sin
 - i. Sin had existed
 - ii. Sin of disbelief is condemning (**John 3:16-18**, *“16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”*)
 - iii. Sin completely exposed (**John 3:19-21**, *“19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”*)
- b. Guilty before God
- c. Guilty because of Christ’s works (**John 10:25-26**, *“25 Jesus answered them, ‘I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, 26 but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock.’”*)
- d. Guilty because of the Scriptures
 - i. Psalm 35:19; 69:4
 - ii. Hatred NOT thwarting God’s plan

Comfort in the Midst of Hatred (vv.26-27)

- A) The Holy Spirit (v.26)
 - a. Paraklete (masculine – denoting personality, “he”)
 - b. 3rd Person of the Trinity (from God and Christ)
 - c. Spirit of truth (neuter – denoting more function)
- B) The Spirit of Witness (v.27)
 - a. Martyr – bearing witness unto death
 - b. **Acts 1:8**, “*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*”
 - c. **Acts 8:1**, “*And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.*”
 - d. Establish unique apostolic authority – “from the beginning”

Confidence Despite the Hatred (vv.6:1-4a)

- A) Assurance in Christ’s Promises (vv.1-3)
 - a. His Words
 - i. Skandalizo (apostasy)
 - 1. Rejection of the Truth
 - 2. Proven unsaved in the end
 - 3. Fall into sin
 - 4. Everyone is (or will be) tested
 - ii. **1 John 2:19**, “*They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.*”
 - iii. **Matt.10:22**, “*...and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.*”
 - iv. **1 Cor. 15:1-2**, “**1** Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, **2** and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.”

- v. Burden of discouragement (what follows)
- b. Future Persecution
 - i. Excommunication
 - ii. Execution
 - iii. Explanation
 - 1. In the Name of God
 - a. Acts 9:1-2, “**1** But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest **2** and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.”
 - b. Acts 26:9-11, “**9** “I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. **10** And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. **11** And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities.”
 - 2. Not Knowing God
 - a. Catholic Church during Reformation
 - b. **John 14:7**, “*If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.*”
 - c. **John 17:3**, “*And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*”
 - d. **John 20:30-31**, “**30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

- B) Assurance in that Moment (v.4a)
- a. **John 14:25-26**, "25 *"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."*
 - b. **John 15:3,7,11** (Saving / Preserving in Prayer / For Joy)

Conclusion

- A) How much does the world love you? It's probably indicated in how much you love the world (money, time, thoughts).
- B) Are you ready to be persecuted for following Christ? Why or why not?
- C) Do the Words of Christ abide in you? Meaning, have you believed the Words of Christ, love Him by believing what He's said?
 - a. He's said you are a sinner, lost without hope in this world
 - b. He's said that He is the only way, truth and life and apart from Him there is no salvation
 - c. He's said you must believe in Him all the way and for the long haul
 - d. Saving faith is the faith that lasts in and through persecution (not works...proof)