



Calvary of Albuquerque

Why Does Everyone Hate Me? - John 15:18-25

From the Series, Believe:879

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

There is a *flipside* to being a friend of Jesus. That's true of any friendship. Whenever you ally yourself and make friends with someone, you will incur some enemies because of it. Likewise, some who don't like Jesus won't like us either—and we discover there are quite a few who don't! Let's find out why, and how we can raise our heads high and prevail.

OUTLINE

- I. The World Hates You
- II. The World Hates You Because It Hates God
- III. The World Hates You Because You Defected
- IV. The World Hates You But There's Good News



Consider This:

1. In what ways do you feel at home in the world? Out of sync with the world? In what ways does the world hate you now? When have you experienced persecution or lack of acceptance? How does that make you feel?
2. Look up Galatians 1:10 and think it over—what does it mean to you personally?
3. If someone asked you how to have joy in the midst of tough times, what would you say? How does it make you feel that you are sometimes treated like the Lord whom you serve?

DETAILED NOTES

- I. Introduction
 - A. Opposing natures
 1. Believers
 - a. Redeemed nature
 - b. Come to Christ, changed
 2. The world
 - a. Unredeemed nature
 - b. Unchanged
 - B. Context
 1. Jesus tells the whole truth: advantages and disadvantages
 - a. "I have called you friends," (John 15:15)
 - b. I have enemies
 - c. "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27)
 - d. "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full." (John 15:11)
 - e. Now speaks of hatred, animosity, persecution
 2. Setting
 - a. 11 disciples with Jesus at Passover
 - b. Walking from the Upper Room toward the Garden of Gethsemane
 3. Four statements
 - a. Reflect the relationship of believers to the unbelieving world
 - b. Build upon one another to give the full picture
 - c. Presuppose a relationship with Christ that you don't mind sharing with others
- II. The World Hates You
 - A. Contrast with Love
 1. Frequency in previous paragraph (9 times)

- a. 3 times in v. 9
 - b. 2 times in v. 10
 - c. 2 times in v. 12
 - d. Once in v. 13
 - e. Once in v. 17
- 2. Relationship
 - a. Love of Father for Son
 - b. Love of Son for disciples
 - c. Love of disciples for one another
- 3. Now "hate"
- B. The love of Christ will incur the hatred of this world
 - 1. "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him." (1 John 3:1)
 - 2. "Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you." (1 John 3:13)
- C. The World
 - 1. Κόσμος; kosmos - world system
 - a. Beliefs, values, ideology
 - b. Against God's plan and the Lord Jesus Christ
 - 2. Headed by Satan: the god of this world (See 2 Corinthians 4:4 NLT)
 - 3. Opposed to the gospel message that Jesus is the singular way to salvation
 - 4. Often refined, cultured, intellectual, spiritual, religious
 - 5. Opposed to God, Christ, and believers
- D. Persecute: to chase, to hunt (v. 20)
- E. "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles...Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake." (Matthew 10:16-18; Matthew 10:21-22)
 - 1. Wherever gospel taken, those who preached it were hassled
 - 2. Roman persecution
 - a. Flung to lions
 - b. Burned at stake
 - c. Human torches in Nero's garden
 - d. Sewn into carcasses of slain animals, so wild animals eat them
 - e. Molten lead poured
 - f. Eyes gouged out
 - 3. The disciples (*Foxe's Book of Martyrs*)
 - a. Matthew: slain with the sword in Ethiopia
 - b. Mark: dragged through streets of Alexandria
 - c. Luke: hung on an olive tree in Greece
 - d. John: placed in boiling oil (did not die; banished to Patmos)
 - e. Peter: crucified upside-down in Rome
 - f. James the greater: beheaded in Jerusalem
 - g. James the less: thrown from the temple and beaten to death with clubs
 - h. Bartholomew: flayed alive
 - i. Andrew: bound to a cross, preached to his persecutors until he died
 - j. Thomas: run through with a lance in East India
 - k. Jude: shot with arrows

III. The World Hates You Because It Hates God

- A. Spiritual Issue
 - 1. Satan dispatches his demon horde to influence policy and ideology of this world
 - 2. We are caught in the cross fire
 - 3. Michael Medved (movie critic) spoke of another critic who said of the review for *Last Temptation of Christ* "We must stand together against these Christians."
- B. If you are not serious about following, this probably won't affect you
- C. Religious People
 - 1. One solution for sin: Jesus Christ
 - 2. If they reject Jesus, they reject God
 - a. "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also." (John 8:19)
 - b. "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning," (John 8:44)
 - c. "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world." (John 8:23)
 - 3. A person who rejects Christ (no matter how outwardly religiously zealous) if reject God: God hater
- D. Before Jesus came, man could claim relative goodness and self righteousness
 - 1. Keep the laws
 - 2. Better than others
- E. Jesus is perfection incarnate: reveals our sinfulness
 - 1. African chief who broke the mirror
 - 2. Jesus perfect righteousness shows our utter sinfulness
 - 3. "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19)

IV. The World Hates You Because You Defected

- A. You no longer live like the world
- B. Chosen out of the world
- C. "Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." (2 Timothy 3:12)
- D. Leaving the ranks of the world is misinterpreted as superiority complex
 - 1. Jonas Hanway and his umbrella, had rocks thrown at him
 - 2. Church in Myrtle Beach told to keep the crosses inside because they are offensive
 - 3. "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." (1 Corinthians 1:18)
- E. The message of the cross is a reminder of Christ's perfection and His crucifixion

V. The World Hates You But There's Good News

- A. You are in good company: stand with Christ
 - 1. Demonstrates you are a believer
 - 2. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." (Matthew 5:10-12)
 - a. Moses before Pharaoh
 - b. Isaiah sawn in two
 - c. Jeremiah thrown in a well
 - d. Elijah hounded by Jezebel and Ahab
- B. You have a good resource: Scripture
 - 1. "They hated me without a cause"
 - a. Predicted (See Psalm 35; Psalm 69)
 - b. God knows about the situation
 - 2. How the early church comforted themselves (See Acts 4)
- C. There is a good chance some will believe
 - 1. "Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (John 6:69)
 - 2. "When you said, 'I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God' you were saying something very dramatic. When you said: Jesus was the Son of God you declared, 'I am not an atheist, who says God doesn't exist. I am not an agnostic, who says, "I don't know if God exists.'" When you said you believed that Jesus was the Son of the living God you were declaring, 'I am not an idolater, that worships images made of wood, stone or gold. I don't worship my dead ancestors (as those who Buddhists, Confucionists, Taoists, and Shintoists do). I am not a nature worshipper (like the Hindus). I am not a fire worshipper (like the Zorastrians).' When you said you believed that Jesus was the Son of the living God, you declared 'I am no polytheist, who says there are many gods.' When you said you believed Jesus to be the SON of God, you were saying you were Not a pantheist, that says, 'all is God' Not a deist, that thinks God created the world and never involved Himself in its problems. Not a uniformist, who believes that all things continue as they were in the beginning. Not a modernist, who denies the virgin birth. When you said you believed Jesus was the CHRIST, you declared, 'I am not an unbelieving Jew, who denies Jesus as the Messiah. I am not a futurist, who yet looks for a Messiah. I am not a Theosophist or a follower of the Baha'i or Mohammedan cults that think Jesus is only one of God's many witnesses.' When you said you believed in Jesus, you were saying your faith was in Him, Not Buddha Nor Confucius Nor Mohammed Nor Reverend Moon When you said, 'I BELIEVE' you said, 'I accept the Scriptures,' because faith in Jesus is the direct result of the testimony of Scripture. When you said 'I believe, you were declaring yours was a personal faith, it wasn't inherited, it wasn't forced upon you, but fully confessed.

When you spoke the 'Good Confession' you drew a line in the sand. You declared that every one outside of Jesus was wrong. And you declared to the world that unless they turn to from their sins, accept Jesus as their Savior, make Him the Master of their lives, and are buried in the waters of Christian baptism, they will be condemned. That usually doesn't go down real well."

Greek terms: Κόσμος; kosmos - world system

Publications Referenced: *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, by John Foxe

Figures Referenced: Michael Medved; Jonas Hanway;

Cross References: Psalm 35; Psalm 69; Matthew 5:10-12; Matthew 10:16-18; Matthew 10:21-22; John 3:19; John 6:69; John 8:19; John 8:23; John 8:44; John 14:27; John 15:11; John 15:15; Acts 4; 1 Corinthians 1:18; 2 Corinthians 4:4; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 John 3:1; 1 John 3:13

