



Sermon Series: John - The Word of Life - Part 49

Message: “When the World Hates You”

Text: John 15:18-25

Date: 01/29/2023

- ★ John’s purpose for writing was to connect people to Jesus! (John 20:30-31)
- ★ John was writing to Jewish Christians being kicked out of their synagogues (John 9:22)

Question: When people “hate” or reject us because we follow Jesus, how will we respond?

John 15:18-25

- (v18) “hate” = “reject”
- (v19) “chosen you” = disciples were chosen; all disciples are chosen according to the overall master plan of God (providing a way for humanity to come to Him and remain in Him)
- (v20) “Remember what I told you” (from John 13:16)
- (v20) When people follow the example of Jesus, they too could be persecuted
- (v22, 24) “they would not be guilty”
 - If Jesus hadn’t come, they would not have rejected Him
 - “As it is” = “In reality” (Jesus did come, they rejected Him, therefore they’re guilty)
- (v25) “their Law”
 - Jesus is referring to the Jewish religious leaders
 - “Law” = a catch all phrase for the entire Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)
 - “They hated me without reason” (see Psalm 35:19 & 69:4)

How will we respond when we’re rejected because of our faith in Jesus?

- Response #1 - Will we shut ourselves off from the world?
- Response #2 - Will we embrace the way our culture wants us to change?
 - 2 Timothy 4:3-4
- Response #3 - _____
 - Mark 12:30-31; Romans 5:14; 1 John 4:20; Matthew 5:43-45; 1 John 4:12-19

- Going Deeper -

For individual or small group study

1. What are some examples of the world hating or rejecting us because we believe in Jesus? Why do you think some people are hostile toward Christians?
2. READ Galatians 5:22-23. How is the fruit of the Spirit helpful during those times when we're under attack because of our faith?
3. READ James 1:19-21. Why are these verses especially beneficial for those that choose to practice them?
4. READ Matthew 5:43-48. Who are our "enemies"? In what ways can we pray for our enemies?
5. READ Matthew 10:1-42. Does loving our enemies mean that we need to allow them to continually hurt us? How else does this passage relate to John 15:18-25 and what can we learn from it?

Recommended Resources

- *NIV Faithlife Illustrated Study Bible*, christianbook.com, <https://bit.ly/3kxieXw>
- "Overview: John 13-21" by Bible Project, search on YouTube