

## John 15:18-16:11 – The World’s Hate

Jesus talked about his love for his disciples. He also talked about how the disciples needed to love one another as he loved them. However, the world would hate the disciples. The world would treat the disciples in the same way that they treated Jesus. Jesus wanted to prepare them for the hatred they would receive from those who hate Jesus and therefore who also hate God the Father.

**Read John 15:18-27.**

Some people want everyone to like them. For a follower of Jesus that is not possible. Jesus said that the world would hate the disciples? Why did the world hate them? Why does the world hate us if we stand for Christ? (15:18-19)

Jesus said that the world would not only hate them but that the world would also persecute them. Why would the world persecute them? (15:20-21)

Why were the people of Jesus’ day without an excuse for their sin of rejecting and hating Christ? (15:22, 24)

Is it possible for someone to love God the Father and hate Jesus, God the Son? When people hate Jesus, who are they also rejecting and hating? (15:23, 24)

Was the world’s hatred of Jesus reasonable? (15:25) Who originally wrote these words “hate me without cause”? (Psalm 35:19, 69:4)

Generally speaking, the world doesn’t hate the baby Jesus lying in a manger. That Jesus, which means it’s time for gifts, is not threatening. The “I will make Jesus whatever I want him to be” is also not threatening. The Jesus whom the world hates is the one who says, in John 8, that people are sinners and will die in their sins. He says that their father is the devil and they are liars who hate the truth (John 3). The true Jesus is the one who says that he is the only way to God the Father. The world hates that Jesus. The Gospel is life to those who are born of God but it brings judgment and condemnation for those who continue in their sin. How have you experienced the world’s hatred for the name of Jesus?

In John 5, Jesus mentioned five witnesses which were Jesus himself, John the Baptist, Jesus' signs / works, God the Father, and Scripture. Of the five witnesses, only one would remain. Jesus and God the Father would continue to be witnesses of course, but not in the same way as when Jesus "tabernacled among us". Once Jesus left there would be two additional witnesses. Who are the two new witnesses? (15:26-27)

**Read John 16:1-11.**

Why did Jesus tell the disciples about the world's coming hatred and persecution of them? (16:1, 4)

What else would the world do to the disciples? (16:2) Why does the world do this? (16:2-3)

Jesus again stated that he was going to the One who sent him. What was the emotional state of the disciples? (16:6)

The disciples did not want Jesus to leave but Jesus said that there was a benefit in his leaving. What was it? (16:7)

In chapter 14, Jesus said that he would ask the Father and he would send the Holy Spirit to help them and be in them. In verse 7 Jesus said that he would send the Holy Spirit. This is just more evidence of the unity of the Trinity.

In verses 8-11, what aspect of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is described?