

# Expect Persecution!

John 15:17 These things I command you, **that ye love one another.** 18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before *it hated* you. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because **ye are not of the world,** but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore **the world hateth you.** 20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will **also persecute you;** if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things will they do unto you **for my name's sake,** because they know not him that sent me. 22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. 23 **He that hateth me hateth my Father also.** 24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. 25 But *this cometh to pass,* that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, **They hated me without a cause.** 26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father,

even the Spirit of truth, **which proceedeth from the Father,** he shall testify of me: **27** And ye also **shall bear witness,** because ye have been with me from the beginning. **16:1** These things have I spoken unto you, that **ye should not be offended.** **2** They shall **put you out** of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever **killeth you** will think that he doeth God service. **3** And these things will they do unto you, because **they have not known the Father, nor me.** **4** But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, **ye may remember that I told you of them.** And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.

1. There is a great need for Christian fellowship and love **17**  
These things I command you, **that ye love one another.**
  - a. Those outside of Christ will hate us because we are not like them or one of them **19** If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because **ye are not of the world,** but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore **the world hateth you.**
  - b. Being one of Jesus' disciples makes us hated

- c. He chose us out of the world, made us different than the world
- d. If we identify with Jesus then we are not identifying ourselves with them
- e. If we are so hated by others we will definitely need each other
- f. We are not of them, we are people without a country. We only have Him and each other **John 13:34-35** **A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35** **By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**
- g. Loving each other is part of our new nature  
**I Thessalonians 4:9** **But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. I Peter 1:22** **Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: I Peter 4:8***  
**And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.**

2. The world hates us **18** *If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before **it hated** you. **19** If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because **ye are not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore **the world hateth you.***

- a. They hated Jesus before they hated us
- b. They hate us because we are different. We should be different. We are born again. We have different values. We have a different mentality
- c. They hate us because we are His chosen which makes them think we are arrogant, proud, boastful
- d. They hate us because we follow Jesus and He came from the Father and reminded them of their sin **22** *If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.*
- e. They hate us because we believe in and promote, preach one that they hate. They really hate God the Father **23** **He that hateth me hateth my Father also.** **24** *If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.*

- f. We do not want to act ugly or try to stir up their hatred but you must realize now that they will never like you, the church, the Bible, God or anything we stand for until they repent of their sin and get saved
- g. So many try to make the church where they can like it but that is the opposite of what Jesus did and is saying here

3. The world will persecute us **20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will **also persecute you**; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things will they do unto you **for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.****

- a. If they killed our leader what can we expect for ourselves. We are not greater than Him
- b. When He called us to follow He told us to take up a cross. We followed Him expecting to die
- c. They hate Jesus and they hate God because He has exposed their sin and rebellion **22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. 23 He that hateth me**

**hateth my Father also.** 24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.

- d. The persecution is going to get very hard and He is warning them here 16:1 These things have I spoken unto you, that **ye should not be offended.** 2 They shall **put you out** of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever **killeth you** will think that he doeth God service. 3 And these things will they do unto you, because **they have not known the Father, nor me.** 4 But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, **ye may remember that I told you of them.** And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.
- i. Jesus did not want them to be surprised. He wanted them to be prepared for the persecution that was coming
- ii. They will be put out of the synagogues 2 They shall **put you out** of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever **killeth you** will think that he doeth God service.

- iii. They will try to kill you and be proud of it. They will think that they are doing something good
- e. Jesus wanted them to know it was coming
- f. If you are going to serve Jesus you must know that it will not be comfortable. People will not like it. They will not like the stand you take
- g. You must know that you will lose friends. You will not be accepted. They will think ill of you for serving God, going to church, being a giver, supporting world missions etc

#### 4. You aren't the real problem, Jesus is

- a. The world hated Jesus before it ever hated any of us **18** *If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.*
- b. They hate us because He chose us **19** *If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because **ye are not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore **the world hateth you.***
- c. Everything ugly they do against us is because we name in name **21** *But all these things will they do unto you **for my name's sake**, because they know not him that sent me.*

- i. We should be very careful that we are not acting self righteous, better than others, critical, proud, etc
  - ii. They should hate us because we love Jesus not because we are rude
- d. Jesus coming, preaching, and living causes them to realize their sin. They do not like that. They were comfortable until the light was turned on **22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. 23 He that hateth me hateth my Father also. 24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.**
- e. Jesus is and should be the problem. We should work at never making anything else the problem.
    - i. We should remember where we were when He found us and saved us
    - ii. We should always be praising Him not ourselves
    - iii. We do not brag about our morality because it is not us but Him
    - iv. One of the reasons that you should not make this about politics



5. Jesus is sending a Comforter from the Father **25** *But this cometh to pass,* that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, **They hated me without a cause.** **26** But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, **which proceedeth from the Father,** he shall testify of me: **27** And ye also **shall bear witness,** because ye have been with me from the beginning.

- a. They hate Jesus for no reason. He has done nothing but come to save them.
  - i. They knew they had sinned. They know that they need help
  - ii. It is simply their pride that will not admit that Jesus is the one that can help them
  - iii. The Word was written in their law, Jesus coming is no surprise nor is their need of Him
- b. They hate us, we will be persecuted, we are going to need comfort and help because what is about to happen will not be easy **26** *But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the*

Spirit of truth, **which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:**

- c. The comforter will remind us of Jesus and what He taught us
  - d. He comes from God to comfort us and give us the power to do God's will
  - e. Notice that the work of the Comforter, the Holy Spirit is to testify of Jesus not Himself
  - f. Much of what we see and hear about the Holy Spirit today is very wrong. Too much emphasis on the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came to talk about Jesus
  - g. Any time the Holy Spirit makes much of a man or Himself you can be assured that it is not the Holy Spirit
6. We will be witnesses **27 And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.**
- a. The apostles had known Jesus from the beginning of His ministry and now they will tell everyone about Him
  - b. The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, will teach them and they will teach others
  - c. They will be empowered by the work of the Holy Spirit

- d. The point of the Holy Spirit coming was to make them witnesses not miracle workers. Those are secondary
  - e. As the Holy Spirit works in your life are you telling more and more people about Jesus?
  - f. Are you learning more to share more?
7. All the wicked things that the world will do to us is because they have not known the Father or Jesus **3 And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.**
- a. We are forewarned. We will be hated and persecuted.  
**16:1 These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. 2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.**
  - b. Maybe this would help us realize that we can never make the real Jesus palatable to the world
  - c. The truth will always be offensive so just honor Jesus and tell them the truth
  - d. They weren't told that they would be popular or that their church would be popular rather they were told the opposite **4 But these things have I told you, that when**

the time shall come, **ye may remember that I told you of them.** And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you.

- e. Why do we insist that the church, the Bible, the ministry should be popular and accepted by lost people. Light is never accepted by darkness.
- f. Is it that we are simply not willing to pay the price to be and do what God has called us to do?