

He Hate Me

John 15:18-25

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.

1. The world _____ you.

> The _____ will incur the hatred of the world.

Don't be surprised, dear brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.

-1 John 3:13

2. The world hates you because the world hates _____.

3. The world hates you, but there is _____.

a. You are in _____.

b. There's also a chance that some will _____.

Scripture References (In order of use): 1 John 3:1; 1 John 3:13; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Matthew 10:17-18; Matthew 10:21-22; Genesis 3:15; John 8:19; John 8:23; John 8:44; Matthew 5:11-12; Romans 8:18

Reference Works: Addresses on the Gospel of John (H. A. Ironside); The Gospel of John (Jack Wilson Stallings); The Gospel of John, Volume 2 (William Barclay); John (Kenneth O. Gangel); John—That You May Believe (R. Kent Hughes); The Message of John (Bruce Milne)

Discussion Questions

1. Before this sermon, how would you have described what it means to follow Jesus to someone who had never heard the gospel? Would you have included the reality of the world's hatred?
2. Read **John 15:18-25**. Is there anything from the sermon you would like to discuss?
3. Patrick defined "the world" as an ordered system of beliefs, values, and ideologies that are opposed to God and to Jesus Christ. How do you see that ordered system at work in your everyday life, your workplace, your neighborhood, or your culture?
4. How does knowing that the hatred is rooted in your identity in Christ, rather than in something you did wrong, change the way you respond to it?
5. Patrick made a strong statement based on John 8: "If you're not really committed to following Jesus, the world's hate probably won't affect you that much, because satan's got you right where he wants you." How does that challenge you personally? Is there any area of your faith where you have been playing it safe or staying disengaged?
6. Read **Matthew 5:11-12**. Jesus says to be happy and glad when people persecute you for His sake. Be honest with your group: does that feel natural or does it feel nearly impossible? What would it take to genuinely arrive at that posture?
7. Patrick listed Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Elijah, and Jesus Himself as examples of those who suffered because of their faithfulness to God. When you face ridicule, rejection, or hostility because of your faith, how does placing yourself in that line of company change your perspective?
8. Read **Romans 8:18**. How does keeping an eternal perspective help you endure the pressures and hostilities of living as a Christian in this world?
9. Have you made an oikos list yet?

Daily Devotions

Day 1: Called Out of the World

Reading: John 15:18-19; 1 John 3:1

Being a Believer is the greatest honor imaginable, but it carries a cost that comfortable Christianity rarely advertises. When God calls you His child, the world that operates under the influence of the enemy cannot recognize that identity, because it does not know the Father. You did not drift into faith accidentally. Jesus deliberately called you out of a system that now regards you as foreign. That sense of not quite belonging in certain spaces is not a malfunction of your faith. It is confirmation of it. Lean into the discomfort of being set apart. It is evidence of grace.

Day 2: Spiritual Warfare Is Real

Reading: Genesis 3:15; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 6:12

The hostility you experience as a believer did not begin in a courtroom, a classroom, or a comment section. It began in a garden. God declared war on the enemy and announced that a Skull Crusher was coming. That promise was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection dealt the decisive blow. Yet the enemy, though defeated, keeps fighting. He cannot reach Jesus, so he targets those who bear His name. Understanding this reframes every conflict you face. You are not simply dealing with difficult people or difficult circumstances. You are standing in the middle of a war that was won before you were born.

Day 3: The Cost of Authentic Discipleship

Reading: Matthew 10:17-22; Matthew 5:11-12; 2 Timothy 3:12

Jesus never offered a version of discipleship that promised ease. He looked His followers in the eye and told them plainly that courts, betrayals, and hatred were part of the road ahead. The early church did not read those warnings as metaphors. They lived them out in dungeons, arenas, and on crosses of their own. The question worth sitting with today is whether your faith is visible enough to attract any opposition at all. A Christianity that blends seamlessly into the surrounding culture and never disturbs anyone may not be the Christianity Jesus described. Authentic discipleship has a cost, and Jesus said it is worth it.

Day 4: The Danger of Mere Religion

Reading: John 8:19, 23, 44; Revelation 3:15-16

One of the most sobering warnings in Scripture is the possibility of being outwardly religious while remaining inwardly aligned with the world. Jesus spoke directly to people who were zealous in their traditions yet completely disconnected from the Father. Religion without relationship does not neutralize the enemy's agenda. It advances it. A believer who is disengaged from the mission of the Gospel, indifferent to the lost, and comfortable with spiritual mediocrity poses no threat to the darkness. Examine your heart honestly today. Is your faith a living, active trust in Jesus that costs you something, or has it become a comfortable habit that costs you nothing?

Day 5: Suffering Now, Glory Later

Reading: Romans 8:18; 1 Peter 4:12-14; Revelation 21:4

The Apostle Paul, writing from a life marked by imprisonment, beatings, and relentless opposition, declared that present suffering does not compare to the glory that is coming. That is not wishful thinking. It is a settled conviction rooted in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Whatever you are enduring today because of your faith, it is not the final word. The same God who raised Jesus from the dead has prepared an eternity for you that no amount of worldly hatred can diminish or destroy. You are in good company. You stand with prophets, apostles, martyrs, and the Lord Himself. Hold on. The glory is coming.

Deacons on Call

> **Danny Bell** and **John Gray**

Weekly Events

- **Worship:** Sundays at 9:45 AM
- **Small Groups:** Sundays at 11 AM
- **Deep Dive:** Wednesdays at Noon and 6:45 PM
- **First Kids:** Wednesdays at 5:30
- **First Youth:** Wednesdays MS at 5:30, HS at 6:45



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Sermon Notes and Devotional

TODAY'S MESSAGE

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OCTOBER 11, 2026