

Discipleship and the World



To Love or Not to Love the World

The disciples relationship to the world is a love-hate relationship. God loved the world but tells us not to love it and that the world would hate us.

So what is the disciple to do?

Introduction: A Biblical world view of the world!

1. **Creation:** The created order is good *Gen 1:31; Ro 1:19-20*
This **IS** the part of the world we are to love *Psalm 19*
2. **Fall:** Sin disrupts man's relationship with God
This is what we do not love (*1 John 2:15*)
Man's settled opposition to God.
3. **Redemption:** God promises to conquer sin
4. **Consummation:** God's people are gathered; God's creation is renewed; God dwells among His people.

A. The World That Hates Us *John 15:18-19*

1. The example of the blind man *John 9*
2. The world that hates Christ and believers in Christ is the world that is in rebellion against God.
3. We do not share in this world's outlook, live by its values, cherish its cravings, or pursue its goals.
4. We are strangers and exiles to this world
Heb 11:13; 1 Pet 2:11

B. Living With The 'Worlds' Hatred *John 15:20-27*

1. **Remember** the Word :20
The principle of spiritual attachment
 - a. **As servants** *Joh 13:16; 15:20*
 - b. **As friends** *Joh 15:14*
 - c. **As branches** *Joh 15:1-8*
2. **Remember** what was done to **Jesus** :21-25
The principle of spiritual detachment
 - a. **Rejecting** the revelation of God :21; 24
 - b. **Living in sin** :22
 - c. **Living in hate** of the God of the Bible :23
 - d. **Fulfillment of prophecy** *Psa 69:4*
3. **Remember** the promise of the **Father** :26-27
The principle of Spiritual power and witness
 - a. Without help from the Helper—the hate of the world would destroy us.
 - b. The Holy Spirit's power enables us to be witnesses
Acts 1:8
 - c. The Spirit enables us to preach the Gospel *Acts 4:8*
 - c. The Spirit will speak to the Church *Rev 2-3*

John 15:18-25

:18 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it* hated you.

:19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

:20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

:21 But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me.

:22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.

:23 He who hates Me hates My Father also.

:24 If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father.

:25 But *this happened* that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, 'THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.'

:26 "But when the **Helper** comes, whom I shall send to you **from the Father**, the **Spirit of truth** who proceeds from the Father, He will **testify of Me**.

:27 And you also will **bear witness**, because you have been with Me from the beginning.