

# The Hatred of the World

Pastor-Teacher Grant Castleberry

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John 15:17-25

JESUS is GIVING his final INSTRUCTIONS to the DISCIPLES.

John 15:18 – [18] *“if the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.*

John 15:20 – [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 also keep yours.*

And there is a WAR taking PLACE. Genesis 3:15 – [15] *I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*

- The OFFSPRING of the WOMAN is ultimately the LORD JESUS CHRIST.
- EVERYONE who looks to the LORD JESUS CHRIST in FAITH is adopted as a CHILD of GOD.
- The OFFSPRING of the DEVIL is EVERYONE else.
- 1 John 3:8 – [8b] *The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.*
- There is a BATTLE which takes place between the SEED of the WOMAN and the SERPENT.

## What is our DEFAULT TEAM?

- Ephesians 2:1 – [1] *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2] in which you once walked following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—[3] among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*
- Before you come to Christ... you are enslaved in Satan’s realm.
  - Following the “Prince of the Power of the air”
  - We all once lived “in the passions of the flesh.”
  - The SYSTEM in which SATAN operates is called the WORLD.

## Notice what Paul calls SATAN’s DOMAIN. THE WORLD.

- WORLD has a RANGE of MEANINGS. Kosmos – has a range of meanings.
  - A woman’s attire/adornment (1 Pet 3:3)
  - The sum total of everything
  - All living creatures (including angels)
  - The Planet in terms of geography (Planet Earth)
  - The Earth in contrast to Heaven
  - Humanity in general

## WORLD = The EVIL SYSTEMS of this PRESENT AGE under the CONTROL of SATAN.

- Jesus said that Satan is “*the ruler of this world.*” John 12:31 and John 16:11.
  - Paul called Satan “*the god of this world*” (2 Cor. 4:4)
  - John says in 1 John 5:19 – [19] *We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.*

- Four Manifestations of Satan’s DECEPTION.
- 1) The world of False Religions.
- 2) The world of vice.
- 3) The world of godless ideologies.
- 4) The world of pagan spirituality.
  - Behind all of it is the same ETHIC. 1 Cor 6:9 – [9] *Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, [10] nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. [11] And such were some of you.*
- Jesus told the JEWS of his day that they are part of this world.
  - John 8:23 – [23] *He said to them [the Jews] “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.”*
  - John 8:44 - [44] *You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires.*

The WORLD dominates us under the power of SATAN. Rom 5:7 – [7] *For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot.*

The GOSPEL is a COMPLETE TRANSFORMATION!

- Colossians 1:13 – [13] *He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

What SURPRISES so many CHRISTIANS... is to find that that now the WORLD HATES them.

- A. W. Tozer – The vast majority of evangelicals believe the world is a playground rather than a battlefield.

### The CHRISTIAN loves Christians

John 15:17 – [17] *These things I command you, so that you will love one another.*

- Christians have LOVE for one another.
- JESUS has described the special LOVE that He has for the CHRISTIAN.
- That He will lay down His life for US.
- We are to LOVE one another.
  - John 15:12 – [12] *This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

### The WORLD hates Christ

The WORLD hates CHRISTIANS because the WORLD hates CHRIST.

John 15:18 – [18] *“if the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.*

- The WORLD hates the LORD JESUS CHRIST.
- Hate – *miseo* – To have a strong aversion; to detest; to hate.
- John 16:20 – [20] *Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice.*

### Why did they DETEST HIM so much???

- John 7:7b – [7b] *The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.*
  - His message. Matt. 4:17 – [17] *From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

- The normal response. John 3:20 - [20] *For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.*

### The WORLD hates Christians

John 15:19 – [19] *If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own;*

- If you were still on the world’s team... the world would love you and care for you as their own...
- As long as the world sees you toeing the PARTY LINE they LOVE YOU.
  - *Phileo* – to cherish; to have affection for.

John 15:19 – [19] *but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world therefore the world hates you.*

- Because CHRIST has chosen us out of the WORLD.
- Because He has put the CHRISTIAN on the PATH of RIGHTEOUSNESS... the WORLD hates you.
  - Jesus calls to you. See verse 16.
  - YOUR RIGHTEOUS LIFE... Your WORSHIP of GOD... rubs the WORLD the wrong way.
  - CARSON – “The world is a society of rebels, and therefore finds it hard to tolerate those who are in joyful allegiance to the king to whom all loyalty is due.”
  - 2 Tim 3:12 – [12] *Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.*
  - It’s not that we are MORALLY superior... but it’s that Christ chose is on this path.
- The RESULT is that the WORLD also hates you.
  - John 17:14 – [14] *I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.*
  - John says... 1 John 3:12 – [12] *We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother’s righteous. [13] Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.*
- The RIGHTEOUS LIFE of the CHRISTIAN
- So what is the response...

### The WORLD corrupts the RIGHTEOUS.

- If someone is PURE the world wants to corrupt them. Your holiness is a stench. So they want to tarnish it.
- Proverbs 4:25 – [25] *Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.*
- Proverbs 4:26 – [26] *Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.*
- Proverbs 4:27 – [27] *Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.*

### The WORLD persecutes the RIGHTEOUS

John 15:20 – [20] *Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’*

- The WORD is SLAVE. A slave is not greater than his master and a slave is associated with his master.
- The quote is from John 13:16 – there it is in reference to HUMILITY. If Jesus washed feet, how much more are we to serve.
- Here, it’s to persecution.

*If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.* You can EXPECT PERSECUTION. Your association with me. Your righteous life, it will bring the PERSECUTION.

*If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.*

- God will use you to win some. The message that comes from your LIPS, but it will be because of your identity with CHRIST.
  - Walter Hobbhouse (1910) – “The disciples must be in the World, but not of it. They had been chosen out of it for the purpose of bearing witness to it, and to become assimilated to it again would be to extinguish their power of witness.”
- 1) *Understand that Christianity is a Crucified Life.* Galatians 6:14 – [14] *But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*
  - 2) *Repent of Loving the WORLD.* James 4:4 – [4] *You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*
  - 3) *Develop your affections for God and not the WORLD.* 1 John 2:15 – [15] *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16] For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. [17] And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.*
  - 4) *Know that When you are Persecuted you are BLESSED.* Luke 6:22 – [22] *“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! [23] Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven*