

## Episode #2-08 - Whom the World Hates

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. We continue to consider events leading up to the Lord's death. In John 15, the Lord continues His teaching to His disciples as they travel from the upper room where they had the last supper to the garden of Gethsemane. In this portion, the Lord commands them to love one another.

III. John 15:9-17. The commandment to love.

- A. V.12. The commandment to follow to have joy. This is a repeat of John 13:34. Good advice for us, but a specific command to them: love their fellow 10 disciples.
- B. V.13. There is truly nothing more loving! To lay down your life like this does not have to result in death. Giving up your dreams, your likes and dislikes, and your desires for another person are all laying down your life. Sometimes, living for someone takes even more love than dying for him. In this case, your life not your own anymore. This is true, *agape* (self-sacrificial) love.
- C. V.14. The Greek word means "direct," not "command." This is a Master speaking to His disciples, not a Savior speaking to sinners. A servant is only a friend to his master if he obeys his directives.
- D. V.15. Servants = Greek *doulos*, which means "slaves." A slave does not know what his master is doing. He just hears his commands and obeys them. The Lord's disciples have heard all He has heard from His Father. Therefore, He calls them friends, who have a right to know what their Friend is doing. What a privileged place they had!
- E. V.16. The usual custom: a disciple chooses his master, but He chose them!
  - 1. Choose = Greek "elected." Notice that they were not elected for salvation here, but for service.
  - 2. A disciple would choose his master, for being a disciple was a great commitment. But man chooses his own friends.
  - 3. They were not chosen for short-term fruit, but they were elected for a lasting work (their work continues even today through the Bible they helped write.)
  - 4. "In my name" is not just how you end a prayer. This means that they had permission to ask for these things.
- F. V.17. Their mutual love for one another was crucial for their upcoming ministry.

IV. John 15:18-25. The hatred of the world.

- A. V.18. World = Greek *kosmos*, an orderly system or arrangement. In this case, He is speaking of the rulers of that system. We worry about polluting the environment. Yet the world of men is polluted, and does not love the followers of Jesus Christ. If it hates us, it hated Him first!
- B. V.19. If the religious leaders had given the disciples their positions, the world would have loved them. Yet Christ had elected them, so world hated them.

V. Conclusion: The Lord commands His disciples to love one another as He loved them. We see them do this in the book of Acts. He calls them now His friends, not His slaves, because He has revealed to them what He is doing. The world will hate them just as it hated the Lord, but those who love the Lord will love them. May we love these great men of God as well!