



Not From the World
32nd in the “Life in his Name” Series
John 15:18-27, p. 902
May 12, 2019
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God explains the world’s hate of Christians and the Christian’s witness to the world.

The Text: John 15:18-27

1) Because of Christ both the world will hate the Church and the Church will love the world (vv. 18-21).

What should our attitude be toward the world?

- (a) *Empathy*
- (b) *Mercy*
- (c) *Love*
- (d) *Intentionality*

2) The Church is a witness in the world not the judge of the world – that’s Jesus’ job (vv. 22-27).

What do these verses teach us about our engagement with the world?

- (a) *The hatred of the world toward the church should not be provoked (vv. 23-24).*
- (b) *We must expect injustice from the world and learn how to suffer (v. 25).*
- (c) *The church, empowered by the Spirit, is to serve as a witness to the world (vv. 26-27).*
- (d) *Excursus – What about 1 Cor. 6:1-3: “the saints will judge the world [and] angels?”*

Response

You do not belong to this world; you belong to Christ!

Sunday Text Questions for John 15:18-27

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- 1) Starter Question: What comes to mind when you hear the term, “the world,” and why?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Does “the world” hate the church/Christians, and if so, what does this hate look like?
- 4) According to vv. 18-21, why does the world’s hate for Christ also get applied to the church?
- 5) How are we “not of the world,” and how did Christ “choose you out of the world” (v. 19)?
- 6) What does v. 22 mean, or how did the coming of Christ begin the judgment of this world?
- 7) Based upon vv. 26-27, what role does the Holy Spirit (the Paraclete) play in our ministry in and to the world?
- 8) Many Christians either try to avoid the world (like a disease) or attack the world (like an enemy). What would Jesus say our attitude or posture to the world should be?
- 9) In what ways can Christians and churches be “in the world” (ministry) but not “from the world” (identity)?
- 10) Concluding summary: What does this text teach us about *faith* (doctrine), *hope* (desire), and/or *love* (duty)?

Further study this week: Psalm 69 on trusting God when the world hates (Mon); Colossians 1 on filling up the sufferings of Christ (Tues); 1 Corinthians 6 on judging the world (Wed); Revelation 2, esp. v. 26, on having authority over the world (Thurs); Revelation 3, esp. v. 21, on sitting with the Father on the throne (Fri).