

HATED BY THE WORLD -Lesson #12

In **John 16**, Jesus has been expressing the glorious relationship that He has with His disciples.

He used the vine imagery ---to show that He is the true Israel, and **that only those rightly connected to Him** --will bear fruit for God's Kingdom.

John 15:9-12 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love, v10 If you keep _____ My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love, v11 these things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full, v12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Fullness of joy can be found in the commands of God; **this does not mean life will be easy**

John 16:33 Jesus said, "**In this world, you will have persecution.**"

James 1:12 Blessed is the one who perseveres **under trial** because, **having stood the test**, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

1 Peter 4:12 "...Dear friends, **do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal** that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

John 15:18 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you."

The world rejects --those who are not part of the world --Believers, who do not talk, or act like those who are **in the world**.

The rejection, the hatred, and the persecution we receive --**are part of the two houses we are building**

Matthew 7:24-26 – “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a WISE man who **built his house on the rock**: v25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did NOT fall, for it was founded on the rock.

v26 But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does NOT do them, **will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand**, v27 and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and **it fell**, and great was its fall.”

The world pressures us ---to change our views on people living together without marriage, people involved in sexual immorality, homosexuality, child abuse, transgender, abortion, and so many other transgressions.

Jesus said -We will be hated for upholding our beliefs.

Remember, Jesus was despised and rejected –So, prepare yourself for rejection. **If they hated Jesus**, they'll hate you!

Matthew 15:18-21” If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it hated* you, v19 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, v20 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.**”

John 16:1-3 “These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble, v2 they will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you **will think that he offers God service**, v3 and these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me.

Acts 8:1-4 --“Now Saul was consenting to Stephen’s death, at that time, a **great persecution arose against the church** which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles, v2, and devout men carried Stephen *to his burial*, and made great lamentation over him, v3 as for Saul, he

made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison, **v4** therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word”.

The world -- is not exempt from this rejection. Creation testifies to the existence of God.

Romans 1:20-24 “the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that **they are without excuse**, **v21** because that, when **they KNEW God**, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened, **v22 (they) Professed themselves to be wise, (they) became fools**, **v23, and (they)** changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things, **v24** wherefore God also gave **(them up, over)** to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves”

Welcome to the 21st Century

They are without excuse **v20** – Everybody is born with a knowledge of **GOD** through the visible creation, but chooses to reject God, therefore all are guilty...

We must not be ignorant of the scriptures; we must not allow ourselves to remain in this condemning condition – **Why?**

Because it leads us -- to false doctrine, false worship, and false service.

- This is why we see so many different denominations and religious teachings.
- We fall into this same deception, that just believing what the preacher, or teacher says – **Acts 17:11**
- **Ignorance is not bliss** –It leads us away from the Lord.
- **Ignorance will lead us** to believe and do things that God rejects.

These things were not a surprise to the Lord -God prophesied about the rejection of Jesus many times in the scriptures

Hebrews 2:1-3 "Therefore we must give the more earnest heed (attention) to the things we have heard, lest we drift away, **v2** for if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, **v3** how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

When these difficulties, persecutions, and rejection occur, remember these words and be prepared, being His disciples will cost you

2nd Timothy 3:12-13 "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be **persecuted**, while evil people and impostors will **go on from bad to worse**, deceiving and being deceived".

Just because the world rejects the message of Christ does not mean we can change it, soften it, or stop telling people what the scriptures teach.

Matthew 10:32-34 "So, everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword."