

# “Gospel of John: Relating to the World”

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## Scripture

### John 15:20 - 16:4

“Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave 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. "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.

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

"He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well.

"But they have done this to fulfill the word that is written in their Law, **THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.'**

"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me, and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling.

"They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. "These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me. "But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.”

## Last Week

Jesus taught the disciples about the critical points they needed to remember as they launched into ministry

Jesus needs to set the expectation in their mind about their future ministry and potential treatment

He wants them to be prepared – being not of the world and yet still in it

Remember that you are chosen, appointed, and have direct access to the Father

Remember that you are to love one another because the world will hate you and persecute you

Jesus said, “If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.”

## This Week

Jesus began to teach about the Disciples’ relationship with the world

Jesus continues the discussion in today’s passage

## Get Ready for Contempt

### John 15:20-21

“Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave 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. "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.”

“A slave is not greater than his master. If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you”

Jesus promised that persecution would come:

### Matthew 5:11-12

“**Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for **in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**”

The fact that we stand as believers in Jesus means that the world will not like us

It is reasonable: The world is run by Satan right now -> Satan hates Jesus -> the world will hate us

How many of us get upset when someone treats us with evil and contempt?

We should expect it -> even in a small town

We need to lower our expectations and understand that it will come

“if they kept My word, they will keep yours also”

If the world loves us all the time, that could be a warning sign for us, we might not be holding to Jesus's words

Paul experienced it throughout his life and ministry:

### 2 Timothy 3:10-12

“Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! **Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.**”

If we truly follow Jesus, we should be persecuted outside these walls

Inside these walls, however, we should expect to be loved -> this is Jesus's point to the disciples about loving each other

“But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me”

They do not hate us -> they hate Who we represent -> they hate the Master

The slave is not above the Master

Why do they hate Jesus?

Wasn't He all about love and kindness?

## Confronting Sin

### John 15:22

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

Jesus says that if He didn't come, the Jews wouldn't know they were in sin

They would be blind to their sin

When do you know that you are speeding on the expressway?

Usually, it's when you see a police officer and look at your speedometer

Or when the lights begin to flash behind you

The same happened when Jesus showed up:

### John 5:43-46

"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him. "How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only God? "**Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope.** "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me. "But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

Jesus pointed out what Moses said -> He referred them to the Bible

We should do the same thing, right?

Do you point out what the Bible says to unbelievers?

We shouldn't do that to be high and mighty in our own eyes

We shouldn't do it to feel superior

We should do it out of love for the world -> that some would realize the error of their ways

### John 15:23-24

"He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well."

Jesus healed a blind man in John 9 -> He found the man after he was excommunicated:

### John 9:35-41

“Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you." And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.

39And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind." Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, "We are not blind too, are we?" Jesus said to them, "**If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, We see, your sin remains.**"

We learn that some people think they can save themselves

They are self-righteous and can handle it on their own

They are the true, spiritually blind people

The man was physically blind but spiritually had sight -> the Pharisees were the exact opposite

The Jews hated Jesus because He followed the Father's will to the letter -> healing on the Sabbath, as well

### The Father Planned for This

#### John 15:25-27

“But they have done this to fulfill the word that is written in their Law, **THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.**”  
"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify about Me, and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.**"

Jesus quoted **Psalm 35:19**

“Do not let those who are wrongfully my enemies rejoice over me; Nor let those who hate me without cause wink maliciously.”

This is David's psalm for protection from his enemies

**The Father's plan was for the Son to be loved by some and hated by many**

#### Isaiah 53:5-10

“He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth. **By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of**

**my people, to whom the stroke was due?** His grave was assigned with wicked men, Yet He was with a rich man in His death, **Because He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.**

**10But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief; If He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand."**

God's plan was to crush His beloved Son for the salvation of His beloved saints

They would hate the perfect sacrifice -> without good reason

But some would love Him:

"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify about Me, and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning."**

The Spirit impresses upon Who the Son is -> causing us to ask for salvation

Once inside, the Spirit produces testimony from us

What is Jesus saying here?

He wants the disciples to know that the Spirit WILL produce testimony -> they will evangelize about Him

You WILL talk about Jesus if the Spirit lives inside of you

Do you talk about Jesus to others?

In many cases, we want to be liked by others

In many cases, we want to avoid conflict

And we miss opportunities to tell people about Jesus

The disciples talked about Jesus and the world hated them because of it

Almost all of the apostles met their death through persecution and evil

We'll talk about the Holy Spirit more next week

**Keep Running and Be Strong**

**John 16:1**

"These things I have spoken to you **so that you may be kept from stumbling."**

Crossing into John 16, Jesus reveals why He has taught the disciples about the world's hatred

He doesn't want the disciples to be surprised about hostility

He taught them what ministry would be like before when He sent them out to minister:

### Matthew 10:11-23

"Whatever city or village you enter, inquire who is worthy in it, and stay at his house until you leave that city. "As you enter the house, give it your greeting. "If the house is worthy, give it your blessing of peace. But if it is not worthy, take back your blessing of peace.

14"**Whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet.** "Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.

"**Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves;** so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves. "But beware of men, for they will hand you over to the courts and scourge you in their synagogues; and you will even be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

19"But when they hand you over, do not worry about how or what you are to say; for it will be given you in that hour what you are to say. "**For it is not you who speak, but it is the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.** "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. "You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved. "But **whenever they persecute you in one city, flee to the next;** for truly I say to you, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes."

What do we learn from this?

Talking about Jesus is difficult, at times

**Our job is to collect those who are chosen -> Jesus told us that we are harvesters of those the Spirit moves on**

We do not know who has been chosen, so we are to ask everyone

If the door is shut on us, we are to go somewhere else and continue asking

We are not to be discouraged -> this is a treasure hunt

We are not to quit serving -> this is long-term search

We are not to worry about what we are to say -> the Spirit provides the words

**When we're in a difficult situation, we should have confidence in the Spirit**

### Get Ready for Exclusion

#### John 16:2-4

"They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. "These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me. "But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. **These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.**"

The disciples will be excluded from the religious elite

They will be hunted down for their faith

Those who come after them will think that they're doing God's work -> Paul felt this way about his persecution

We are seeing this with the Muslim led countries in the Middle East

**Why do they go after Christians?**

"These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me."

They do not know Jesus or the Father

**"These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you"**

Jesus didn't need to warn them while He was with them

Why? Because He was constantly there with them to protect them

He would no longer be there to protect them, so He wants them to be aware

**Prayer**

**Benediction**