THE WORLD HATES YOU BECAUSE I CHOSE YOU

VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

MARCH 27,2022

FACILITATOR:MARSHA CARTER SCRIPTURE: JOHN 15:18-27

Introduction: Some people don't like because of the company you keep. Some because they think they are better than you are. Some because they don't even like themselves. Most don't even know why they don't like you. It may have been a suggestion or impression from someone else but one thing for sure: Jesus said: "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account Rejoice and be glad for great is your reward in heaven"

I.THE WORLD REJECTS THE DISCIPLES BECAUSE OF WHO THEY ARE (VV18-20)

a) If they hate you (18a)

Jesus told the disciples that the world would often hate them. As wonderful as Jesus was and His message was, they should expect to be rejected when Jesus departed, just as much as they were often opposed while Jesus was with them.

b) Know they hated me first (18b)

Jesus hoped to comfort the disciples with the knowledge that the world's hatred was first directed toward Him. Don't take it personal. As my followers except for the crucifixion you will suffer the same rejection as I will.

c) Because you are not of the world (19a)

But I chose you out of the world so the hatred of the world, instead of being depressing, should be exhilarating, as being an evidence and guarantee that you have been chosen by Christ to be set apart.

Rom 12:18

d) If they persecuted Me they will persecute you (19b)

Jesus was mostly persecuted by the religious establishment (the saints), which mainly reflected the values and goals of the world in opposition to God. One may be religious and very much part of the world.

- e) If they kept My word, they will keep yours also (20)
- They will pay the same attention to your words as to mine; that is, none.' But if they have heard my word, they will keep yours also. Nothing gives greater uneasiness to the godly than when they see the doctrine of God haughtily despised by men. But when we consider how The Word in Flesh was received well....
- 2. THE WORLD REJECT THE DISCIPLES BECAUSE OF WHO JESUS IS (21-25)
- a)Because they do not know who sent me (21)

If people do not know God as He really is, they often attack and persecute those who represent God in some way. Men may prefer to evolve an idea of their universal Father, and that idea of theirs will take their own color and the color of their Age. It is this blindness and ignorance that keeps them from accepting the truth and believing the lie. This hatred of Christ arises from

stupidity of mind when God is not known, unbelief is blind and knowledge is confused. Thanks be to God that we have been enlightened!!!

b. Now they have no excuse for their sin (22)

Because Jesus did come and speak to the world, they knew something of God that they did not know before. This made them without excuse for hating and rejecting Jesus and His Father in heaven. Jesus did among them the works which no one else had done, and they still hated and rejected Him. By both his life and his words he rebukes human sin and condemns it. He uncovers the inner corruption and hypocrisy of men, and they react violently to the disclosure." He has now put them on blast. They're really mad now so they got to try to make Him look bad.

c. He who hateth Me hateth my Father also (23)

The Father and I are one.(Jn10:30) He who honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father (Jn 5:23) No one can abhor the gospel without rejecting God.

d) They hated me without a cause (24-25)

There was no just cause for the world to hate Jesus and His Father as they did. They hated Me without a cause: Jesus quoted this line from Psalm 69:4 The irony of his quotation is clear: the men who posted as the champions of the Law were fulfilling the prophecy concerning the enemies of God's servant."(Matt 23:13-16,23-33)

As the disciples of Jesus some measure of hatred and rejection from the world is to be expected, but they should live in such a way that it is also without a cause. Peter communicated some of this in his letter: If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.

e. Now they have no excuse for their sin

Because Jesus did come to and speak to the world, they now knew something of God that they did not know before. This made them without excuse for hating and rejecting Jesus and His Father in heaven. Jesus did among them the works which no one else had done; they still hated and rejected Him. By both his life and his words he rebukes human sin and condemns it. He uncovers the inner corruption and hypocrisy of men, and they react violently to the disclosure."

- 3. THE witness of the Holy Spirit and the disciples (VS 26-27
- a. When the helper comes ((26a)

Jesus knew the disciples would need the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit to face the opposition the world would bring. *After having explained to the apostles that the Gospel ought not to be less highly* valued by them, because it has many adversaries, even within the Church itself; Christ now, in opposition to the wicked fury of those men, produces the testimony of the Spirit, and if your consciences rest on this testimony, you will never be shaken. "True, the world will rage against you; some will mock, and others will curse your doctrine; but none of their attacks will be so violent as to shake your faith, for the Holy Spirit shall have been given to you to establish your testimony." And, protect you when the world rages on all sides.

b. He will testitify of me (26b)

Jesus had told them that the Helper, the Holy Spirit, would continue the teaching work of Jesus (John 14:26). Here He explained that the Helper would speak of and about Jesus.

Everything the Holy Spirit does is consistent with the testimony of the nature of Jesus. His job is to tell us, and to show us, who Jesus is. If spiritual things happen that are not consistent with the nature of Jesus, it isn't the Holy Spirit doing it. He is the One who will testify of Jesus in all that He does.

c .And you also will bear witness (27a)

The disciples were not left in the world merely to endure the world's hatred. Empowered by the Helper and His testimony about Jesus, they will bear witness of who Jesus is and what He did to rescue the world.

"The witness of the Advocate and the witness of the apostles are in effect a single witness."

"Their witness is linked with that of the Holy Spirit. It is the same Christ to whom they bear witness, and it is the same salvation of which they bear witness. At the same time it is *their* witness. They walked with Him on a daily basis and were eye witnesses to His life. They cannot simply relax and leave it all to the Spirit."

d. Because you have been with me (27b)

What we have heard, what we have seen, what our hands have handled we declare to you(1Jn 1:1) for thus the Lord intended to provide for our welfare in every possible way that nothing might be wanting for a full confirmation of the Gospel.

The disciples were qualified to bear witness of Jesus because they trusted Him, had the Holy Spirit, and had simply been with Jesus – they were part of His life and He was part of their life.

Conclusion: Don't get it twisted! Bearing witness was not only a 12 disciple mandate but as the song writer said:

Stand up Stand up for Jesus ye soldiers of the cross

lift high His royal banner it must not suffer loss

WITNESS FOR THE LORD QUIZ TIME:

2 WEEKS AGO MINISTER GREEN MENTIONED THAT THERE WERE 365 FEAR NOT SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- LIST 5 EACH AND WHOEVER HAS AT LEAST 2 THAT NO ONE ELSE HAS GETS A PRIZE.
- (USE KING JAMES VERSION)