

John 15:17-27

John 15:17 *“These things I command you, that ye love one another.”*

A. Again in this chapter (cf. **John 15:12-13**), Jesus commands the disciples to love one another (**John 13:34-35**).

1. There is a love we need to share as brethren (**I Peter 3:8**).
2. That love has to be sincere (**I Peter 1:22**).

B. The world isn't going to love us (**Mark 13:13**).

1. We need support from each other to face the challenges in this world (**Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**, **Romans 15:1**, **I Corinthians 12:25-26**, and **Galatians 6:2**).
2. True brethren will step up when we find one another under attack (**Acts 9:23-25**, **Acts 17:5-10**, **Romans 16:3-4**, and **II Timothy 1:16-18**).

John 15:18-23 *“(18) If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. (19) If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. (20) Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. (21) But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. (22) If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. (23) He that hateth me hateth my Father also.”*

A. Don't be surprised to find that the world hates you (**I John 3:13**).

1. It is because you're not of the world that you're hated (**John 17:14**).
2. We'll face what Jesus faced if we follow His example (**Hebrews 13:12-14** and **I Peter 2:20-23**).
3. If the world doesn't hear our Lord they won't hear us either (**Ezekiel 3:7** and **Luke 10:16**).
4. Understand that being hated by worldly people is not something bad on your part (**Luke 6:22-23** and **II Timothy 3:10-12**).

B. We'll be hated for His name's sake (**Matthew 24:9**).

1. It is because they don't know God (**I John 2:3-4**) that they hate us (**I Thessalonians 2:14-15**).
2. If Jesus had not spoken, they would not have known sin (**John 9:39-41**, **John 12:48**, **Hebrews 6:4-6**, **Hebrews 10:26-31**, and **James 4:17**; cf. **I John 3:4**).
3. There is no way to conceal yourself from Christ when you're a sinner (**John 3:18-21**).
4. You cannot say you hate Jesus while at the same time proclaiming that you love the Father (**I John 2:23**).

John 15:24-25 *“(24) If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. (25) But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.”*

- A. They knew Jesus was of God by the works He did (**John 3:1-2** and **John 9:30-33**).
 - 1. The works of Christ bore witness of who He was/is (**John 5:36** and **Acts 2:22**).
 - 2. In Christ, they’ve seen the Father (**John 12:44-45** and **John 14:9-10**).
 - 3. Again, when a person is against Christ they are against the Father (**John 5:23** and **I John 2:22**).
- B. They, fulfilling what is written in the Old Law, had hatred without a cause (**Psalms 35:19** and **Psalms 69:4**).
 - 1. Jesus lived a life without sin (**Hebrews 4:15** and **I John 3:5**).
 - 2. They had no just reason to hate Him (**Matthew 26:57-66** and **John 8:45-48**).

John 15:26-27 *“(26) But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: (27) And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.”*

- A. The Comforter is the Holy Ghost (**John 14:26**).
 - 1. One of His tasks was to comfort Christians (**Acts 9:31**).
 - 2. He was to testify of Jesus (**Acts 5:31-32** and **Hebrews 2:3-4**).
 - 3. He is the Spirit of truth (**John 14:16-17**, **John 16:13**, and **I John 5:6**).
 - 4. His coming occurred after Jesus ascended into Heaven (**John 16:7** and **Acts 2:1-4; 33**).
- B. The disciples were to bear witness of Christ as well (**Acts 1:8**, **Acts 3:15**, **Acts 10:39-43**, and **I Peter 5:1**).
 - 1. They were with Jesus from the beginning and could give testimony for that reason (**I John 1:1-3**).
 - 2. In fact, what they had seen and heard was so powerful that they could not stop themselves from talking about it (**Acts 4:13-20**).