

HATED BUT NOT FORSAKEN

I. The Reality of the World's Hatred.

John 15:18 (NIV) "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.

John 15:19 (NIV) If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

John 15:19 (NIV) We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NIV) Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV) In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

II. The Reasons for the World's Hatred.

1. You do not belong to the world.

John 15:19 (NIV) If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

Ephesians 2:1-2 (NIV) As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Ephesians 2:3 (NIV) All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Colossians 1:13-14 (NIV) For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 John 3:12 (NIV) Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.

1 John 3:13 (NIV) Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.

2. They hate Jesus.

John 15:18 (NIV) "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.

John 15:20 (NIV) Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also.

3. They do not know God.

John 15:21 (NIV) They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me.

John 1:18 (NIV) No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

Hebrews 1:3 (NIV) The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being.

John 15:22 (NIV) If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin.

John 15:23 (NIV) Whoever hates me hates my Father as well.

John 15:24 (NIV) If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet they have hated both me and my Father.

John 15:25 (NIV) But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated me without reason.'

Psalms 69:4 (NIV) Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me.

III. The Response to the World's Hatred.

John 15:26-27 (NKJV) "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

John 16:1 (NIV) "All this I have told you so that you will not fall away.

John 16:2 (NIV) They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God.

John 16:3 (NIV) They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me.

John 16:4 (NIV) I have told you this, so that when their time comes you will remember that I warned you about them.