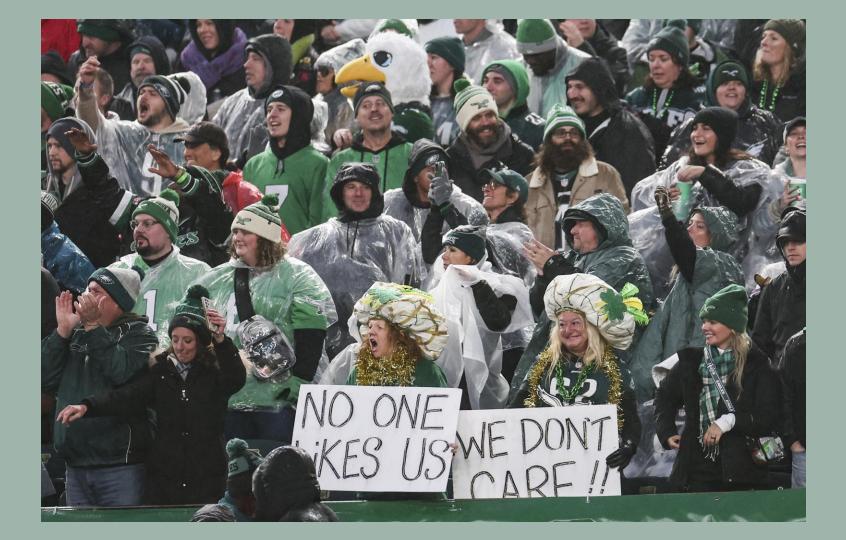
Hatred of the Kingdom of Heaven

Season of Persecution Evangelism Series Part 35





Persecution Will Come

Matthew 10:16-20

16 "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. 17 Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, 18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. 19 When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. 20 For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Matthew 10:21-25

21 Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, 22 and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 23 When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

Hatred of Christ



John 15:18-25

18 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 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. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. 21 But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 Whoever hates me hates my Father also. 24 If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. 25 But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause.'

John 3:19-21

"19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.""





Romans 1:28-32

"28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. 29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them."



Hatred of Christ-Followers

Matthew 10:24-25

24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

Matthew 24:9

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake."



Matthew 12:22-26

"22 Thèn a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. 23 And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons." 25 Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. 26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?"

Matthew 9:34

"But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

How is "All" used in the Gospels?

Mark 1:5: "All Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by [John] in the river Jordan, confessing their sins."

Mark 1:37: "They found [Jesus] and said to him, 'Everyone is looking for you.'"

In Mark 5:20, the cleansed demoniac testified to Jesus's power and healing, and "everyone marveled."

Mark 11:32, "...all held that John really was a prophet."

John 3:26: "[John] is baptizing, and *all* are going to him.

"Okay, in all these uses and more, the word all [or everyone] does not mean every single individual in the group. It means that this is the general, widespread response. And in the case of "hated by all" in Matthew 10:22, we have the parallel text in Matthew 24:9, "hated by all nations." So we can conclude that hatred will be a widespread, general response to Christian evangelism, and that it will hold true wherever you go among the nations....Being hated for Christ's sake is a normal, widespread, general experience among all peoples, but it's not so constant. It's not so uniform as to rule out that many unbelievers [will see] ... the good lives of Christians and [admit] ... that they are reputable contributors to society..."

- John Piper

"Thank God, they may call us what they like, but they cannot make us evil... God was slandered in Paradise, and Christ on

Calvary; how can we hope to escape?"

- Charles Spurgeon

Matthew 5:14-16

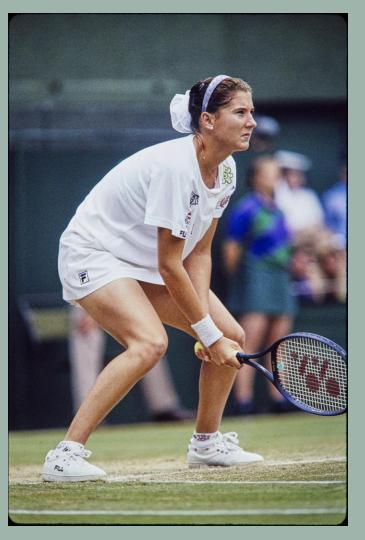
"14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

"When our Lord was on earth, what was the treatment he received? Were his claims acknowledged, his instructions followed, his perfections worshipped, by those whom he came to bless? No; "He was despised and rejected of men." Outside the camp was his place: cross-bearing was his occupation. Did the world yield him solace and rest? "Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." This inhospitable country afforded him no shelter: it cast him out and crucified him.

Such—if you are a follower of Jesus, and maintain a consistent, Christ-like walk and conversation—you must expect that to be the lot of that part of your spiritual life which, in its outward development, comes under the observation of men. They will treat it as they treated the Saviour—they will despise it. Dream not that worldlings will admire you, or that the more holy and the more Christ-like you are, the more peaceably people will act towards you. They prized not the polished gem, how should they value the jewel in the rough? "If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?"

If we were more like Christ, we should be more hated by his enemies. It were a sad dishonour to a child of God to be the world's favourite. It is a very ill omen to hear a wicked world clap its hands and shout "Well done" to the Christian man. He may begin to look to his character, and wonder whether he has not been doing wrong, when the unrighteous give him their approbation. Let us be true to our Master, and have no friendship with a blind and base world which scorns and rejects him. Far be it from us to seek a crown of honour where our Lord found a coronet of thorn."

- Charles Spurgeon, Morning and Evening











John 17:14

"I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world."

