“Our Testimony As Disciples of Jesus in A Hostile World” Part Two

**John 15:18-27** Sunday June 18, 2023 Pastor Timothy Atkins

## INTRODUCTION READ John 15:1-27

Jesus teaches us that being His disciple means rejection, opposition, and persecution by the world because the world hated Him

 Relationship with Jesus 15:1-11 Relationship with One Another

 Relationship with the world 15:18-25

Prophecy by the Lord Jesus that would be fulfilled and now is fulfilled . . .

1. Testimony of Faithful Disciples of Jesus

 In The Face Of A Hostile World 15:18-21

 Why the World Is and Will Be Hostile to Disciples of Jesus

1. Know that The World Hated Jesus First 15:18

 REJECTION by the world

1. Understand that The World Loves Its Own & Not You 15:19

OPPOSITION from the world

 Not of the World But Chosen Out of the World

1. Remember that the World Persecuted Jesus 15:20-21

PERSECUTION by the world

**“**Remember the word that I said to you . . .” command cf. John 13:16

“If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you as well . . .” condition

twisted His words, lied about Him, threatened, accused, harassed, attacked Him

“But all these things they will do to you on account of My name” cause

they will do these things because . . . truth about Jesus & truth from Jesus

Read John 5:18; 7:1, 19; 8:37, 40; 11:53

1. Testimony of The Faithful One Jesus Himself

 Before The Eyes of The World Who Hated Him 15:22-25

 How the World Was and Is Hostile to Jesus Himself

 A. Hearing His Words They Are Guilty of Rejecting Him 15:22

 “If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin . . .”

 Cf. John 10:24 and 14:10-11

B. The Son of God They Are Guilty of Hating the Father 15:23

 “The one who hates Me hates My Father also.”  Cf. John 7:7

1. Seeing His Works They Are Guilty of Denying Him 15:24-25

“If I had not done among them the works which no one else did . . .”

“but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well.”

“But *this has happened* so that the word that is written in their Law will be fulfilled: ‘They hated Me for no reason.’” Cf. Psalm 69:4

1. Testimony of The Spirit of Truth through the Disciples of Jesus

 In The Presence of A Hostile World 15:26-27

 What the World Does and Believes Is Hostile to Disciples of Jesus

1. The Promise of the Coming Holy Spirit

 Who Will Be Testifying About Jesus 15:26

“When the Helper comes. . .whom I will send. . .who comes from the Father”

third statement by Jesus about the ministry of the Holy Spirit 14:16-17, 26

 “He will testify about Me . . .” His ministry

1. The Practice of the Going Disciples of Jesus

 Who Will Be Testifying About Jesus 15:27

“. . . and you are testifying as well” cf. John 15:16, 20 Our Ministry

 Consider Acts 9 the testimony of the Apostle Paul

cf. 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; 2:1-2

CONCLUSION Our Relationship with Jesus & with the World . . .

* Taking time as a disciple of Jesus to receive, believe, and understand what Jesus said and what Jesus did READ the Gospels Again and Again
* Thinking rightly as a disciple of Jesus you are not guilty of rejecting Jesus nor are you guilty of denying Jesus PROCLAIM the Gospel Again & Again
* Telling Others about the words and works of Jesus as His disciple
* Teaching Others these words of Jesus in making disciples in these days
* Testifying about Jesus by the ministry of the Holy Spirit as those bearing fruit according to the words of Jesus
* Understanding these words by Jesus for you as His disciple so that we would rightly interpret and personally expect such hostility by the world
* Loving the disciples of Jesus who are persecuted in the world so that they would remain faithful to the Lord in the world
* Knowing there are costs for my relationship with Jesus as His disciple which has consequences in my relationship with those in the world
* Believing this teaching by Jesus Himself so that we ourselves would continue in our relationship with Him and His disciples