

In the Shadow of the Cross Pt. 8

John 15:18-27

1. The world is going to hate you (vs. 18-21)
 - a. The world has hated Jesus since the beginning.
 - b. The evidence:
 - i. We are distinct (or at least we should be)
 - ii. This is an absolute truth.
 - iii. As believers we respond out of love.
 - iv. We do not conform to the world's pattern.
 - c. **1 Peter 4:3-4** - *For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.*
 - d. **John 1:4-5** - *In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.*
2. The reasons why it does (vs. 22-25)
 - a. The unforgivable sin - The world rejected Jesus in the form of His revelation
 - i. **John 12:37** - *Who Has Believed Our Report? But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him,*
 - ii. **John 12:42-43** - *Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.*
 - iii. **Matthew 12:31-32** - *Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.*
 - b. We love Jesus
 - i. The world hated Jesus and therefore hate The Father. So, in effect, the world will hate us.
3. How to respond to the world's hate (vs. 26-27)
 - a. The Holy Spirit
 - i. We are not left to ourselves.
 - b. The Holy Spirit guides us in truth and boldness.
 - i. We are His witness

1. **1 Corinthians 1:18** - *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

4. Three questions

- a. Who or what do you love more than Jesus?
 - i. Who or what do I love most in this world?
- b. Does the world not like you for the right reasons?
- c. What kind of witness are you bearing to the world?