



Sermon Title: "Hatred, Hope, and the Holy Spirit"

Scripture: John 15:18-16:4

Pastor Chris Fritz

Sunday, June 24th, 2018

INTRODUCTION

I. THE PROMISE OF DISTINCT PERSECUTION AND DIVINE POWER

How can we rightly live, thrive, and represent Christ in this fallen world?

A. Expect to be hated by the world. (John 15:18-19)

Question 1: What does Jesus mean by "world"?

Note: Here Jesus is referring to those opposed to God, to those ruled and influenced by Satan.

John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 John 5:19 -

Question 2: Why does the world hate Jesus?

Note: Baby Jesus, lying in a manger, is not the problem. It's grown up, crucified, risen, Lord, King, God, Savior Jesus that the world finds so offensive.

John 7:7 -

Question 3: Why does Jesus tell His disciples that they are not "of the world"?

Philippians 3:20 -

1 Peter 2:9-12 - "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

Colossians 1:13 -

B. Take comfort from your identification with Christ. (John 15:20-25)

Note: The name of Jesus embodies and represents His identity, strength, work, and glory.

1) Jesus is the dividing line between loving God and hating God.

John 5:23b -

2) Hating Jesus is illogical because all His works validate and prove His claims!

John 3:19; Matthew 11:28-30 -

3) In spite of hatred and opposition, God's purposes will be fulfilled.

Matthew 5:44-45a -

C. Depend upon the power and presence of the Spirit (the Helper). (John 15:26-27)

1) Because the Spirit testifies, we can testify with confidence!

2) The Spirit of truth (the Helper) is sent by Jesus and proceeds (comes forth) from the Father.

1 Corinthians 2:10 -

3) Jesus emphasizes that a primary role of the Spirit is to "bear witness" about Him.

1 Corinthians 12:3 -

4) Jesus reveals that the Apostles would have a unique ministry, as eyewitnesses to His glory.

2 Peter 1:16 -

D. Be anchored in the hope of God's promises. (John 16:1-4a)

Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application...

1. As you look at the book of Acts, how do you see Jesus' words, here in John 15-16 fulfilled?
2. Why does the world hate Jesus and His followers?
3. Why is it true that to hate Jesus is to also hate the Father (verse 23)?
4. Why is it a comforting thing that, in verse 25, Jesus quotes from Psalm 35?
5. Why is it significant to know that the Spirit is sent by Jesus and proceeds from the Father?
6. What is a primary role of the Spirit? What does Jesus say that the Spirit will do?
7. According to John 16:1-4, why should the disciples not fall away?