



## UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD'S HATRED

OCTOBER 2, 2023

**READ JOHN 15:18-25**

Truly, we are humbled, and even honored, to have been chosen by Christ out of the world; however, His choice of us is not one that frees us of all difficulty in this life. In fact, His choice of us guarantees hardship and the world's hatred. Jesus tells us not to be surprised if the world hates us, for we have been chosen out of the world (**John 15:18-19**).

Our Lord does not mean that the world's hatred of us exists as a possibility that may or may not be realized. Instead, Christ means that when the world hates us, we should not be surprised, for we do not belong to the world.

The world cannot help but hate us, because those who are in rebellion against God hate everything that is not also in rebellion against Him. Jesus notes that we should not be surprised when the world hates us for following Him, for they hated Him first.

If they hated Him and love us, then we would be greater than Him, but since the servants are not greater than the Master, the world's hatred of Him guarantees it will hate us (**John 15:20-21**). We will be despised in many circles for keeping the commandments of Christ.

They hated him without cause because He told them the truth, because He bore witness to them that what they were and did was evil, because they feared Him as the Holy One of God. And the more we live in Him and the more we are like Him, the more they will hate us too. You just make sure you pray and continue to love.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**MATTHEW 24:9**

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Our time is near. Stay focused on Him.