# John 15 17 **This is My command to you: Love one another.**

18 If the world hates you, understand that it hated Me first.

19 If you were of the world, it would love you as its own.

Instead, the world hates you, because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.

20 Remember the word that I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.'

If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you as well; if they kept My word, they will keep yours as well.

John 15 21 But they will treat you like this because of My name, since they do not know the One who sent Me. 22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin.

23 Whoever hates Me hates My Father as well.

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.

John 15 25 But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: 'They hated Me without reason. 26 When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Fatherthe Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father—He will testify about Me. 27 And you also must testify, because you have been with Me from the beginning."

1"I have told you these things so that you will not fall away.

2 They will put you out of the synagogues. In fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God.

3 They will do these things because they have not known the Father or Me.

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> The world is not your friend

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- 14 I have given them Your word and the world has hated them;
- for they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
- 15 I am not asking that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one.
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Philippians 2 14 Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine as lights in the world

John 15 20 Remember the word that I spoke to you: 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you as well; if they kept My word, they will keep yours as well. > The world is not your friend ... because it was not Jesus' friend ...we should expect persecution

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them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin.

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The world is not your friend ...
because we expose their sin

John 3 19 And this is the verdict: The Light has come into the world, but men loved the darkness rather than the Light, because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come into the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever practices the truth comes into the Light, so that it may be seen clearly that what he has done has been accomplished in God."

To sum up all in one word — what the soul is in the body, Christians are in the world. The soul is dispersed through all the members of the body, and Christians are scattered through all the cities of the world. The soul dwells in the body, yet is not of the body; and Christians dwell in the world, yet are not of the world.

Epistle to Diognetus (135 AD??)

The invisible soul is guarded by the visible body, and Christians are known indeed to be in the world, but their godliness remains invisible. The flesh hates the soul, and wars against it, 1 Peter 2:11 though itself suffering no injury, because it is prevented from enjoying pleasures; the world also hates the Christians, though in nowise injured, because they abjure pleasures. Epistle to Diognetus (135 AD??)

# The soul loves the flesh that hates it, and [loves also] the members; Christians likewise love those that hate them. The soul is imprisoned in the body, yet keeps together that very body; and Christians are confined in the world as in a prison, and yet they keep together the world. Epistle to Diognetus (135 AD??)

The immortal soul dwells in a mortal tabernacle; and Christians dwell as sojourners in corruptible [bodies], looking for an incorruptible dwelling in the heavens. The soul, when but ill-provided with food and drink, *becomes better;* in like manner, the Christians, though subjected day by day to punishment, increase the more in number. God has assigned them this illustrious position, which it were unlawful for them to forsake. Epistle to Diognetus (135 AD??)

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The world is not your friend ...
because of the "TRUTH" barrier

John 17 14 I have given them Your word and the world has hated them; for they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I am not asking that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.

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43 Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot hear My word.

44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out his desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, refusing to uphold the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

# John 8 45 But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me! 46 Which of you can prove Me guilty of sin? If I speak the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 Whoever belongs to God hears the

words of God.

The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

John 15 26 When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Fatherthe Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father— He will testify about Me. 27 And you also must testify, because you have been with Me from the beginning." > The world is not your friend ... but we are Christ's ambassadors to the people of the world

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In fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God.

3 They will do these things because they have not known the Father or Me.

4 But I have told you these things so that when their hour comes, you will remember that I told you about them.

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The world that is not your friend ... is also inside the Church

# Four Overall Takeaways

1. I would urge us to accept that hatred and persecution from the world is normal for believers

2. I would urge us to recognize that our flesh loves the things of the world and we must battle that

3. I would urge us to always beware of the world's messaging – real truth is from God's kingdom

4. I would urge us to grow in our love for one another

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