

Don't Be Surprised
1-29-2023

- I. Expect persecution.
- II. Jesus is Our Peace and has Overcome the World.

I. Expect persecution.

18 *"If the world hates you, **know** that it has hated me before it hated you. **19** If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, **but** I chose you out of the world, **therefore the world hates you**." John 15:18-19*

20 Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they **will** also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. John 15:20

21 But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, **because** they do not know him who sent me. **22** If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, **but** now they have no excuse for their sin. John 15:21-22

23 Whoever hates me hates my Father also. **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.** **25** But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: 'They hated me without a cause.' John 15:23-25

33 I have said these things to you, that **in me you may have peace**. In the world you will have tribulation. **But take heart; I have overcome the world.**" John 16:33

"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you." John 15:18-19

Why is there such hostility toward Jesus and towards Christ followers?

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being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, Romans 1:29-30

This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. John 3:19

You Love the World Keith Green

"all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they do not know him who sent me." John 15:21

II. Jesus Christ is Our Peace and has Overcome the World.

33 *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. **But take heart; I have overcome the world.**" John 16:33*

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Matthew 5:11

2 *Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, **3** for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. James 1:2-3*

3 *We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing. **4** Therefore we ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring. **5** This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering— **6** since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, **7** and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels. 2 Thessalonians 1:3-7*

Through our **expected** persecution,

1. Understand that our faith is growing
2. Understand that our love for one another is increasing
3. Understand that our perseverance is increasing
4. Understand that God will one day provide justice