

Sovereign Grace Chapel

NO. 58

September 25, 2005

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“Why The World Hates Christ’s People”

By: Walter Pendleton

“If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you” (Jn. 15:19).

Let us first take note of the fact that our Lord uses a very strong word here to describe the state of the world toward His own. The world does not merely ignore us, scoff at us, mock us, and dislike us. These things are often true of the world concerning their conduct toward God’s people, but the underlying truth is that the world actually hates us! So intense is this condition toward Christ’s people by the world that

By: Joe Galuszek Heb 13:1-8

Heb 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Be content with what you have. Whatever you have God has given this to you. Whatever you do not have, Christ knows. The Father knows your needs (better than anyone). It is also a hard thing to do, but it is easier if you keep your eyes on Christ. “But

our Lord says they will treat us like unto the way they treated Him. We read here that they will persecute us (vs. 20) for they persecuted Him. Since they have not paid earnest heed to Christ’s sayings (vs. 20) they clearly will not pay heed when we reaffirm those words.

But the question, which comes to mind, is this, “What are these sayings?” There is no doubt that the world hates all that Christ taught and they do not believe Him for He always taught the truth (Jn. 8:42-45). All who are not of God hear not God’s words (Jn. 8:47). Nevertheless, in the immediate context of John 15:19 Christ dealt with a specific truth for which the

godliness with contentment is great gain” (1 Tim 6:6). Believers know that the Lord is in control. Let this extend into your life. A sparrow never falls without the Father (Matt 10:29). Please note that this does not say: ‘a sparrow never falls without the Father knowing about it’. Death is not left to chance; the hairs of believers’ heads are numbered. The Father knows us and what we need. Be content. **Heb 13 cont. Page 3**

world hates God’s people. The truth for which the world hates God’s people is that of divine, free, election by the grace of Christ. The world hates us because Christ hath chosen us!

But what is it about this choosing that brings such malice toward us by the world? We must take note that we were not chosen because Christ foreknew we would be better than the world, because He said that He chose us “out of the world” (Jn. 15:19). Thus the world hates us because Christ chose us and not them, and it was out from among that mass of what would be depraved humankind (Rom. 3:9; 9:21-24). Those who teach that the elect were chosen before the world was because

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God knew that in the future some people would first chose Christ have the choosing all backwards (Jn. 15:16). Men do "will" to believe Christ and those same do "run" or endure in that believing, but the purpose, the election, the mercy, the compassion shown by God is "not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth" but it is of God (Rom. 9:16). Election is not based upon any good or evil in the one chosen (Rom. 9:11). The election of some and the rejection of others comes from within God's own purpose in love and hate (Rom. 9:13) in which there is no unrighteousness (Rom. 9:13). Thus, if the world hates us because we think ourselves to have been chosen because we were spiritually wiser, smarter, or more righteous than they are, that is, we made the right choice while they have not, then we bring that hatred upon ourselves. But if the world hates us because Christ freely chose us out of the world, to no longer be of the world, then their hatred for us is as it is with Christ, for they hated Him without a cause (Jn. 15:25).

Why would the world hate Christ, and likewise hate His chosen ones, because He has not chosen them to something, which they despise? The world does not desire to believe Him, follow Him, obey Him, and certainly they do not desire to worship Him as He is revealed in scripture. In other words, they do not desire to be His friend (Jn. 15:14), nor do they desire to be likened unto His servants (Jn. 15:20), nor do they

count it a blessing to be hated of their fellows by being chosen out from among their fellows. Their hatred for Christ and His people is truly without a cause! The lack of spiritual integrity in the world runs so deep that the world hates Christ for not choosing them to be something they do not want to start with. Nothing short of rank, inward depravity [an utterly fallen, sinful human nature] would hate for such a reason!

While this is all true, there is yet another vile reaction by some of this same Christ hating world. Rather than having the integrity to acknowledge that this is the mercy and grace of God as revealed in Christ by the scripture, and thus rejecting it as it is, some of this same world attempts to make the grace of God in Christ to be more to their own liking. These make grace dependant upon man – his law works or his church works or both, his morality, his believing, his repentance, his baptism, his membership in some "church," his humanitarianism, etc. These twist the scriptures to meet their own desires of self-righteousness and self-worth. While claiming to be Christ's people, having no part in the world, they are yet of that group which upon reading that "no man can come unto me [Christ], ex-

cept it were given unto him of my Father" they twist the clear testimony of Christ to mean something other than what He actually said. They do not follow **THIS** Christ but make unto themselves a Jesus more to their liking. This ilk of people have been so successful in this endeavor that most people are not even aware of the actual Christ of God as revealed in scripture, and those who try to proclaim the truth are counted as members of some weird group or of holding to "the doctrines of devils." Of course, this they said of our Lord as well (Jn. 8:48).

Nevertheless, those who are the friends of Christ by free, electing grace take the ridicule and even the hatred of the world as a part of that lot we have in this world being chosen by our Lord. Not only is it to be counted a blessing to be so hated but also we are to expect nothing else. May our most gracious Lord give us wisdom and endurance in these matters, knowing that this truth may even bring upon us the hatred of our co-workers, our neighbors, our community, and even our earthly family members. Yet we have, by God's own sovereign promise and the outpouring of His electing grace, a union with Christ, which is far more blessed and important than any other relationship that we may seem to have. To be hated by the world for standing firm in the cause of Christ is one of the hallmarks of Christ's people.

.....**Heb 13 (Cont.)**

This is a promise to believers. This is a promise from Christ. This is a truth of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. He will never forsake His people, never. God's promises are always "yea and, in Him, amen." We sing a song: "God has not promised skies always blue, flower strewn pathways all the way through." In fact, we have been promised trouble and peace. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Believers have tribulation in the world, which worketh patience. In Christ, believers have peace, peace with God. This world is not the end for the believer. Believers will never be forsaken. Believers have been given "Eternal Life." And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand (John 10:28). The beautiful thing about these promises is that they are not conditional upon anything in man. The promise is not: "I will never forsake thee, if you do not forsake me." Or, "I give to you life eternal until you sin (this would be known as life not-so-eternal)." The promises of Jesus Christ, the Lord, are "they

shall never perish," and "I will never leave thee." Believers are to rest in the Lord. They will work because of these promises from their Lord, not from fear of losing them. The Lord Jesus Christ will do all that He has promised. Praise Him for that.

John 14

- 1 ¶ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not *so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again, and receive you unto myself**; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.
- 4 ¶ And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- 5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and **how can we know the way?**
- 6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- 7 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.
- 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.
- 9 Jesus saith unto him, Have

I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?

- 10 Believeest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
- 11 Believe me that I *am* in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
- 12 ¶ Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.
- 15 ¶ If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
- 17 *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

18 ¶ I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

20 At that day ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth



me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye

hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

25 ¶ These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

28 ¶ Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come *again* unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.

30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

Newsletter

We will start placing the newsletter on the website. It will be in PDF format. This will require you to have the adobe reader to view it and print it out if you would like. You can go to the Adobe site and download their viewer for free.

Pamphlets

For sometime now we have said we were going to place our pamphlets on the website. You should now be able to see them there and print them out also. They will be in the PDF format as well.

Articles on the Web

We also have some messages on the site that may not have appeared in our newsletter.

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