John: The Great "I AM" Gospel John 15:18-25—Part 2 From Sermon 1.26.25

Read John 15:18-25

Overview from Sunday's sermon: <u>With this section of John chapter 15, the theme of Jesus' teaching takes</u> a turn. Numerous times in His upper room discourse, Jesus has taught on love. Now, He prepares the Apostles, true Church, and history's genuine believers for the hate they will experience. For those redeemed and forgiven, it's hard to imagine a dying world that hates God, despises the Scripture, persecutes Christians, and rejects the single solution to man's sin problem and enmity with Holy God.

1. Review from Part 1: Reasons the world hates Jesus.

- 1. They hate God—His nature, exclusivity, & holiness.
- 2. They hate the immutable, unchangeable <u>Word.</u>
- 3. They hate their <u>sin</u> exposed, condemnation, & righteousness.

2. While God has a universal, common grace benevolent love for all (*Matthew 5:45 & John 3:16*), He has a special, redeeming love on the His elect. The world hates this immensely. The liberal church does as well. Read the following Scriptures and note that special relationship language is common and also the words and terms God has for His people.

Genesis 4:4-5:		
Romans 9:10-13:		
Genesis 37:3-4:		
1 Samuel 17:20 & 28:		
Zechariah 2:8:		
Colossians 3:12:		

3. Follow and discuss these truths: The devil hates God. The devil hates God's people (the true Church & Israel). Therefore, his children also hate the children of God. <u>Various thoughts and insights</u>.

4. What is your reaction/response to the truth that the world doesn't like authentic Christians? <u>Various</u> <u>personal answers</u>. The natural human nature and psychological truth that most people want to be liked, <u>accepted</u>, and <u>included</u>.

5. How has the modern church responded to the hatred of the world? Discuss.

- Make Friends with the World [See also James 4:4]
- Seeker Sensitivity
- Drop Doctrine
- Ignore/Dismiss Vast Portions of Scripture
- Remove Wrath
- Redefine Sin
- Revise God Appointed Roles
- Dismantle God-Ordained Institutions/Authority