



CHRIST
Our LIFE

When the World Hates

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John 15:18-16:4 (ESV)

“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.

²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than

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John 15:18-16:4 (ESV)

²⁰ his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. 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

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John 15:18-16:4 (ESV)

²² guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 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:

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John 15:18-16:4 (ESV)

²⁵‘They hated me without a cause.’ ²⁶ “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

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John 15:18-16:4 (ESV)

16:1 I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³ And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me.

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John 15:18-16:4 (ESV)

⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.”

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Christians will suffer for faith because...

- We are not of the world.
- From the non-Christian perspective Christianity is ridiculous.

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1 Corinthians 1:18-24 (ESV)

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

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1 Corinthians 1:18-24 (ESV)

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

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1 Corinthians 1:18-24 (ESV)

²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

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Christianity is costly.

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“Jesus took the worst thing that could happen to him, namely, the cross, and turned it into the best thing that could happen to humanity, namely, its redemption. He didn’t bear the cross; he used it. The cross was sin, and he turned it into the healing of sin; the cross was hate, and he turned it into a revelation of love; the cross was man at his worst, and Jesus turned it into God at his redemptive

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**best. The answer, then, is: Don't bear
trouble, use it."**

-E. Stanley Jones

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Responding to Hatred

Don't be surprised nor doubt God's goodness.

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1 Peter 4:12-16 (ESV)

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit

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1 Peter 4:12-16 (ESV)

¹⁴ of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

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Responding to Hatred

- Don't be surprised nor doubt God's goodness.
- Not in kind
- Share the gospel and outlast the suffering for a better eternal joy!

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“He did not die to make this life easy for us or prosperous. He died to remove every obstacle to our everlasting joy in making much of him...If you follow Jesus only because he makes life easy now, it will look to the world as though you really love what they love, and Jesus just happens to provide it for you. But if you suffer with Jesus in the pathway of love because he is your supreme treasure,

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then it will be apparent to the world that your heart is set on a different fortune than theirs.”

–John Piper

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Responding to Hatred

- Don't be surprised nor doubt God's goodness.
- Not in kind
- Share the gospel and outlast the suffering for a better eternal joy!
- By seeing God transforming our character.

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“Suffering really is meant to wean you from sin and strengthen your faith. If you are God-less, then suffering magnifies sin...But if you are God’s then suffering in Christ’s hands will change you.”

–John Piper

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If you would like to talk to Chuck about the sermon, please feel free to call him, email him or friend him on Facebook.



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