

John 15:21-25 b
July 23, 1989
Rome Georgia
November 22, 2015
December 6, 2015

November 22, 2015 message was not finished. Time was cut short due to Missionary family visiting. (Johnathan, Rebecca, Giovanni, Jubilee, and James.) Part II of the message will be preached on Dec. 6, 2015.

November 29, 2015 – Thanksgiving message. In the midst of the hatred of the world, we have :

- EXCEEDING ABUNDANT GRACE
FAITH THAT IS INCREASING BEYOND MEASURE
SUPER ABOUNDING POWER OF GOD DIRECTED AT HIS CHILDREN
We are SUPER-CONQUEROR's in Christ Jesus

Men OF THE WORLD are motivated by greed - and at the root of greed, is envy! Covetousness! Desiring what another has - to the point of hating the one who has it!

Although many men refuse to admit it, the most important thing in life is the feeling of inner peace, satisfaction, contentment. They strive all of their life to attain these goals. **Yet they are constantly denied the sweet pleasure of these elusive qualities.** They may be successful in business, have a beautiful home, fast cars, prestige etc. Yet they remain unfulfilled.

Along comes someone who has peace with God, and the resultant peace of God radiating from their lives.

THEY DID NOTHING MORE TO EARN IT THAN TO TRUST IN THE PROMISES OF GOD TO GIVE THIS PEACE TO THOSE WHO WOULD BUT ASK.

From within envious hearts a deep and abiding hatred wells up.

Rather than accept by faith the Peace Of God that they could have, they vent their emotions instead by **hating** the one who has what they do not!

IT IS AN OLD SCENARIO. **Gen. 4:1ff.** TELLS US ABOUT CAIN AND ABLE.

- Able's sacrifice was acceptable, Cain's was not.
- Abel was acceptable unto God, Cain was not.
- Cain became angry! **Who was he angry with? With God!**
- **Who did he envy? His brother who was acceptable unto God.**
- How did he vent his **wrath against God? He murdered his brother!**

❖ **Men desire what others have.**

- In the case of a relationship to God, **the desire is there.**
 - ◆ But when this desire is denied, when men refuse God, **deny his rightful claim on their lives,**
 - when they desire instead to find fulfillment by worldly pursuits - **God lets them have the desire of their hearts!**

But when they get what they wanted, they find that it does not fill the void in their lives. The cycle is repeated. Each time their heart becomes more and more calloused against God - and hence against all those who possess a right relationship to him!

ROM. 1:28 And even as they **did not like to retain God in their knowledge, GOD GAVE THEM OVER TO A REPROBATE MIND**, to do those things which are not convenient;

THE REASON THAT THE MOB DESIRED THE DEATH OF JESUS WAS NOT BECAUSE OF THOSE THINGS THAT HE DID OR SAID.

THEY COULD FIND NO TRUE FAULT WITH HIM AT ALL.

IN FACT, JESUS HAD CHALLENGED THEM TO NAME ANY SIN THAT HE WAS GUILTY OF, AND NO ONE COULD LIFT A VOICE!

John 8:45 and because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. Which of you convicteth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

JESUS SPOKE THE TRUTH AND NONE COULD DENY IT. THEY DID NOT CRUCIFY HIM BECAUSE OF HIS GUILT - **THEY CRUCIFIED HIM BECAUSE THEIR WICKED HEARTS WERE AT ENMITY WITH GOD!**

THEY HATED HIM BECAUSE THEY HATED GOD. AND THEY WERE NOT GOING TO MISS THEIR CHANCE TO GET HIM!

JESUS WAS HATED BY THE WORLD THAT HE CAME TO SAVE, AND HE WAS **HATED WITHOUT A CAUSE!**

John 15:25 But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, **THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.**

Psalms. 35:19 "Let not those who are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me; neither let them wink with the eye **WHO HATE ME WITHOUT CAUSE.**"

Ps. 69:4 "THEY THAT HATE ME WITHOUT A CAUSE are more than the hairs of mine head; they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty . . ."

Jesus our sinless lord was hated by men, without a cause. How much more may we who identify with the name and the cause of Christ expect to be hated!

John. 15:20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

WE ARE TO TESTIFY CONCERNING THE SINFULNESS OF THIS WORLD WE HAVE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR FATHER WE ALSO SPEAK OF COMING DAYS OF GLORY -

AND AS JESUS ASSURES US IN JOHN 15:18-25, WE LIKEWISE WILL BE HATED BY THOSE AROUND US WHO KNOW NOT GOD!

The easy way out of the unpleasantness of the wrath of the world is to simply keep silent about our faith! To manifest a feeling of camaraderie with those who are of the world. To **remain silent about the myriad "alternative life-styles"** that surround us, and by our silence, lend tacit approval to those who mock the laws of God. :

Remember the believing Pharisees? John 12:42 for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

(Mass resignation last week of Mormons from the Mormon "church" because their "church" will not embrace the gay lifestyle. **Even those who are only masquerading as "christians" don't want the wrath of the world against them.**

TO THOSE WHO WERE TRULY SEEKING TO FOLLOW JESUS (JUDAS HAS LEFT THE BUILDING)

John 15:27 AND YE ALSO SHALL BEAR WITNESS, BECAUSE YE HAVE BEEN WITH ME FROM THE BEGINNING.

BY OUR VERY LIFESTYLE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WE ARE TO TESTIFY CONCERNING THE SINFULNESS OF THIS WORLD. OUR WALK WITH THE SAVIOR IS TO BE A WALK IN LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN AND TESTIMONY TO THE WORLD.

By our Ambassadorship, others should be able to see that it is possible to live righteously in a corrupt world.

(Be sure the emphasis is on SIN and not SINS. Mankind may be able to control certain sins and even overcome their pull on their soul. But the SIN issue is much larger. We will not be judged on how we handled one or another of a plethora of sins - but rather – what has been done with the SIN issue.)

Interestingly enough, when Jesus sought to condemn the sinful heart of man – did not go to a gay bar, democrat convention, or a bordello - He went to the Temple.

WHAT TYPE OF WITNESS? John 15:26 -

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which procedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: v. 26

The **same witness** of Christ that the Holy Spirit of God makes to our own heart. The **conviction of sin** that comes from the convicting work of the Holy Spirit as he reveals to us the absolute righteous standard of God's holiness and our need for a Savior to provide this holiness!

The **same witness** OF THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT BELONGS TO EACH CHILD OF GOD,

The **same witness** OF THE **COMING GLORY** THAT IS THE INHERITANCE OF EACH CHILD OF GOD!

IN SHORT - **The same witness** OF THE SAVING GRACE OF GOD & THE JOYS OF SALVATION!

WE HAVE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR FATHER.

- ❖ AND BECAUSE OF THIS - THE **WORLD** WILL HATE US –
- ❖ JUST AS **CAIN** HATED ABLE
- ❖ AND THE **11 BROTHERS** OF JOSEPH HATED HIM
- ❖ AND THE **RELIGIOUS LEADERS** OF CHRIST'S DAY HATED HIM!

"THE SERVANT IS NOT GREATER THAN HIS LORD."

WE ALSO SPEAK OF COMING DAYS OF GLORY - THE GOALS OF THOSE OF THIS WORLD AND THE GOALS OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT OF THIS WORLD ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE GOALS. WE SEEK NOT A CITY MADE WITH HANDS! **Jn.**

15:19 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.

WE ARE AS ABRAHAM: **WHO** looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. **Hebrews 11:10**

THE WORLD CAN NOT STAND THIS! AND BECAUSE OF THIS THEY HATE US!

BUT WE HAVE A REFUGE IN JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD - AND IN THE FELLOWSHIP OF HIS BODY - THE CHURCH!

Most Americans pray. Most Americans believe in the power of prayer. . . . **On Wednesday afternoon, three gunmen went into a Christmas party in California and began killing people.** They were **Islamic radicals.**

As the attack was unfolding, various people on social media **began offering up prayers for the fallen and those in harm's way. Presidential candidates offered up prayers.** This has happened in the past. Barack Obama, Nancy Pelosi, Hillary Clinton, and others have all responded in the same way in the past. But Wednesday was different.

As statements of prayers poured in, noted voices on the American political left began lashing out and shaming those doing so.

Zack Ford of the liberal Think Progress tweeted, **“Stop thinking. Stop praying. Look up Einstein’s definition of “insanity.” Start acting on gun violence prevention measures.”**

United States Democratic Senator Chris Murphy of Connecticut tweeted, **“Your ‘thoughts’ should be about steps to take to stop this carnage. Your ‘prayers’ should be for forgiveness if you do nothing – again.”**

2 DAYS AGO, The headline of the **New York Daily News** declared, **“God Isn’t Fixing This.”**

TODAYS (11/6/150 The **New York Daily News’ Linda Stasi** has penned a piece attacking one of the victims killed by the terrorists in California. Turns out he is an **evangelical, born-again Messianic Jew and NRA member.** Therefore, he can be attacked and defamed after being killed by terrorists.

Markos Moulitsas, the founder of the **liberal site DailyKos**, first tweeted **blaming Republicans** for the shooting, writing, **“Yo GOP, kinda hard to talk about ‘keeping people safe’ when your peeps are shooting up America.”** Then, when it turned out not to be Republicans doing the shooting, he turned to mocking thoughts and prayers. Among several tweets was, **“You know what won’t do BLANK to stop mass shooting? ‘Praying’.”**

Gene Weingarten, a columnist for the **Washington Post**, joined in with, **“Dear ‘thoughts and prayers’ people: Please shut up and slink away. You are the problem, and everyone knows it.”**

. . . . **while these liberals were mocking people for praying, the victims and their families were praying and asking others for prayers.**

Emma Green, writing in **The Atlantic** on this new trend of **“prayer shaming,”** noted, **“‘Pray for us,’ a woman texted her father from inside the Inland Regional Center, while she and her colleagues hid from the gunfire. Outside the building, evacuated workers bowed their heads and held hands. They prayed.” . . .**

“LIBERALISM IS WHAT STUPID PEOPLE THINK “SMART” LOOKS LIKE”

They ridicule those who pray and those who do not want to violate their faith and conscience. A friend noted in an email this morning, **“America has many things to answer for, but I’ve never seen these people spit on God’s blessings during an actual catastrophe.**

That seems new.” **God is not mocked without consequence.**

“Psa 73:19 How are they *brought* into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors. **Psa 73:20** As a dream when *one* awaketh; *so*, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image..” *republish without that organization’s permission.*

Job 12:4 I am *as* one mocked of his neighbour, who calleth upon God, and he answereth him: the just upright *man is* laughed to scorn. *Prepared for the Macon Telegraph. Do not*

(President) Obama is Far Nastier to Christians Than he is to ISIS – Erik Erikson

To President Obama, ISIS is just a group of killers. The terrorists in Paris were not Muslims. They were just deranged gunmen. The men who flew the planes into the World Trade Center needed to be understood and their poverty alleviated. For that matter, Hillary Clinton thinks we need to empathize with them.

Time and again, President Obama has pulled as many punches against ISIS as he has [curtailed missions against ISIS](#).

*But against the American church, Barack Obama has been in an open campaign against them since he declared rural Pennsylvanians were bitter clingers to guns and religion. He insisted before the **Supreme Court** that there is no freedom of religion in this country, but only a freedom of worship. He demanded government control over ministerial roles within churches. He tried to force Christians to pay for killing kids.*

With the attack in Colorado, **Mr. Obama cautions us against rhetoric that might incite people to violence**. Christians, you see, can drive people to shoot up a Planned Parenthood facility.

The Quran, [which reads](#),

“I (Allah) will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve. Therefore strike off their heads and strike off every fingertip of them” incites no one to violence,

but the Bible, which reads, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” can cause people to get violent.

It is so rare for **an American politician to pander to terrorists** who cannot even vote for him while belittling Americans who can vote for him.

- **An ISIS attack brings a lecture on Christians and the crusades.**

A Clerk of Court who wants to honor her faith brings a jail sentence and a lecture on bigotry.

- **Lining up Christians to behead them brings a plea to understand the underlying concerns of those beheading the Christians.**
- **Daring to challenge Barack Obama in the Supreme Court brings audits and indictments.**

IT IS AMAZING THAT OUR PREVIOUS DEMOCRAT PRESIDENT, **BILL CLINTON**, WHEN ASKED UNDER OATH ABOUT HIS **PARTICULAR PECCADILLOS WITH PROMISCUITY AND INVOLVEMENT WITH EROTICA** IN THE OVAL OFFICE –DEFENDED HIMSELF BY STATING “IT DEPENDS ON WHAT THE MEANING OF “**IS**” “**IS**”- EVIDENTLY HE DID NOT KNOW – AND HOPED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD NOT EITHER.

AND OUR **CURRENT DEMOCRAT IN CHIEF** EVIDENTLY DOES NOT KNOW WHAT
THE MEANING OF **“ISIS” IS** – AND HOPES THE AMERI

1Co 1:25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

1Co 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called*:

1Co 1:27 But **God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;**

1Co 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, *yea*, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

1Co 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

1Co 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

1Co 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

1Co 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

1Co 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

1Co 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

1Co 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

1Co 3:18 Let no man deceive himself. **If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.**

1Co 3:19 For the **wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.** For it is written, **He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.**

1Co 3:20 And again, **The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.**

1Co 3:21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;

1Co 3:22 Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours;

1Co 3:23 And ye are Christ's; and Christ *is* God's.

1Co 4:1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.