John 15:18

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(1)
Think about John 15:18-19.

> (Jesus said to his students) *"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."*

- Who is the world that hates Jesus, and why do they hate him?

  Consider John 7:7. (Jesus said) *"The world … hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil."*

- Why would this world hate the followers of Jesus? (See John 15:18-19 quoted above.)

  Also consider John 17:6,14-16. (Jesus prayed to his Father) "*I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and **they have kept your word**. ... I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because **they are not of the world**, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world."*

- Who is the chief ruler, who has power over this whole present world?

  Consider Luke 4:5-7. *… the devil took him (Jesus) up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.*"

  Also consider 1John 5:19. (The apostle John said to Christians) *We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.*

- Should believers in Jesus, seek friendship with this world? Why?

  Consider James 4:4. *... Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*

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(2)
Think about John 15:20-21.

> (Jesus said to his students) *"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. But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me."*

- When Jesus tells his disciples, "*A servant is not greater than his master*", what is the lesson he is teaching them?

- When Jesus had previously told his disciples "*A servant is not greater than his master*", what was the lesson he was teaching them?

  Consider John 13:1-5, 12-17. *Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, ... Jesus, … rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet*

  When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

- What is the reason that this world will treat Jesus's students the same way it treated him? (See John 15:20-21 quoted above.)

- What does someone who does not know God, live like? Why?

  Consider 1John 4:7-8. *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

- Why doesn't this world know God?

  Consider 1Corinthians 1:18-24. *The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! … As the Scriptures say, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent." … God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. … we preach that Christ was crucified, … the Gentiles say it's all nonsense. But to those called by God to salvation, ... Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

- Why do God's children know God?

  Consider 1John 5:20. *And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. And now we live in fellowship with the true God …*