**It’s Thrive Time Podcast Teaching Notes**

**Teacher:** Minister Rachel Howard

**Series:** Determined and Intentional Thriving In Perilous Times

**Lesson** 5: A Determined and Intentional Disciple is Ready for Persecution

**Text:** John 15:19-27

**John 15- KJV**

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.

[20](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/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.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-20/)

[21](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-21/)

[But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-21/)

[22](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-22/)

[If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-22/)

[23](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-23/)

[He that hateth me hateth my Father also.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-23/)

[24](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-24/)

[If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-24/)

[25](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/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.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-25/)

[26](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-26/)

[But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-26/)

[27](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-27/)

[And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.](https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-15-27/)

**John 15 - NLT**

19 The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you. 20 Do you remember what I told you? ‘A slave is not greater than the master.’ Since they persecuted me, naturally they will persecute you. And if they had listened to me, they would listen to you. 21 They will do all this to you because of me, for they have rejected the one who sent me. 22 They would not be guilty if I had not come and spoken to them. But now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 Anyone who hates me also hates my Father. 24 If I hadn’t done such miraculous signs among them that no one else could do, they would not be guilty. But as it is, they have seen everything I did, yet they still hate me and my Father. 25 This fulfills what is written in their Scriptures: ‘They hated me without cause.’

26 “But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me. 27 And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry

**A Determined and Intentional Disciple is Ready for Persecution**

John 13- Here is where we start this morning and I have seen these Scriptures with new glasses today as the Lord helped me in preparing this message, seeing things I hadn’t seen before.

We come to the last passover here. Jesus is about to enter the Garden of Gethsemane to talk to His Father, then to be arrested and be nailed to a cross, naked, beat beyond recognition, carrying the sin of the world on His shoulders.

**`BUT** in chapter 13 is where we see Judas begin the process.- It starts with Jesus and I love vs 1 it says: “Now before the feast of the passover, when **Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.”**

Today, we should take great comfort in the fact that Jesus loves us unto the end! The “end” does not mean that there will come a time when that love will end. Rather, it means that He loves us with a love that is **WITHOUT END!**

**Jesus Set the Example of a Selfless Servant-** John begins to tell us how after dinner Jesus washed their feet and we see how it impacted John, as we see him write about this in detail. At this critical moment in Jesus life, He took His mind off himself and placed it on His disciples. **How are we doing in the area of servanthood? Let the Holy Spirit check us individually and cooperatively and be open to growth in this area.**

**During this time- we see Jesus telling them that they are to follow His example in attitude and action.**

**Vs 18-20 We see Jesus talk to them about the one who is about to betray Him. Why -** Jesus didn’t tell His disciples that one of them would betray Him because He just learned about it. He knew it all along. Jesus told them this so the faithful disciples would remain confident in Him.

**How Jesus Responded to His betrayer, Judas**- He who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me: Jesus reminded all His disciples – the faithful ones and Judas – that His work was not finished. Judas would not win; the work of Jesus would continue and they would be sent as His representatives. He also wanted Judas to know that rejecting Him meant rejecting the God who sent Jesus.  **How are you doing in this area of dealing with those who hate us because we follow Jesus?**

* **Servant -** Washing the feet of His disciples **- John 13**
* **Comfort -** Reminding them of the Holy Spirit - **John 14**
* **Preparing them for Persecution -** John 15- They hated me first- Preparing them with the “why” they would be hated and easing their fear or anxiety and encouraging them.
* Now we see Jesus begin to be more direct- not sugar coating His words but speaking truth
* **They were to ask the Father and the Father would provide. He also reminded them that they could and should have joy no matter the circumstances we face.** - **John 16**- I’m telling you this that ye should not be offended- or NLT reads “so that you won’t abandon your faith”. He again talks about the Holy Spirit - I will see you again and no one can rob you of that joy. He reminds them to ask the Father in the name of Jesus and they would receive. I’m telling you this so you might have peace. I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” **John 16:33**

**Things to Consider**

* **Today, we should understand we will face persecution,** to what degree, we don’t know, and will be different for all - but Jesus wants us ready for it
* **Jesus removed the need for any self reliance-** They were assured that He would be with them through the Holy Spirit. Are we relying on anyone (including yourself), anything other than Jesus Christ
* **Do not be anxious and do not be fearful** - All throughout the Bible we are encouraged to not fear! Fear is a spirit that is not of God.
* **Don’t be caught off guard-** The systems of this world are anti-god

**Additional Verses Regarding Persecution**

**I John 3:12**

**Mark 10:29-30**

**Luke 12:8-9**

**I Thess 3:3-4**

**Mt 10:16-18**

**I Peter 4:2**

* **To suffer as a Christian is a call to rejoice that they are a disciple of Christ**

I read this **“Persecution is something followers of Jesus must be trained to expect”** - This is not something that comes naturally through the flesh. That is why we must draw close to God and be sensitive to the Holy Spirit…His comfort, encouragement, strength, and power!

**THE FRUIT OF PERSECUTION**

\* **It matures us** - **James 1:2-3**

\*. **It gives us a chance to witness-** Look at the example of Paul and Silas, John and Peter

\* **It enables us to follow our Lord in new ways to become like Him-** **Phil 3:10-** the fellowship of His sufferings

\* **It gives the gospel wings- John 12:24**- Persecution caused the scattering of saints that allowed the gospel to get to the ends of the earth

* **Persecution guarantees a heavenly reward - Mt 5:12**