

## Gospel of John

[Jesus' Prediction of Opposition (Part 2) (John 15:18-16:4)]

### The Relation of the Disciples to the World

- Jesus' Message to the Disciples: the world is going to hate you (vs. 18, 20a).
- The world hates Jesus Christ (John 3:19, 20; Rom. 1:18; 8:7). Therefore, the world hates Christians.
- But some will believe (v. 20b). Be confident in the power of God to save (John 15:26, 27; Rom. 1:16).
- A peculiar accountability comes with religious privileges (vs. 22-24; Luke 12:48). If we would honor God, we must honor His Son (John 5:23).

### The Filioque Controversy

- Western Church: "from the Father and the Son" Eastern Church: "from the Father only"
- Texts: John 14:16, 26; 15:26, 27; 16:7; see also John 8:42; 13:3; 16:27, 28, 30; 17:8
- What is the nature of the procession in v. 26? Is it metaphysical or missional?
- Does the Spirit proceed from the Father only, or from the Father and the Son?

### The Promise of the Spirit

- The witness of the HS occurs in conjunction with the witness of the disciples (vs. 26, 27).
- The assistance of the HS comes in the context of the church's ongoing witness as well as the crisis of acute persecution (Mark 13:11; Acts 1:8).
- The content of the church's witness is Jesus as He is revealed in Scripture (John 16:14).
- The witness of the Spirit through the disciples will force a division in the world (John 16:2).

Practical Lessons

- 1) Those who are not trusting Christ to save them from their sins are not neutral toward Him (Matt. 12:30).
  
- 2) Worship the Triune God (Ex. 15:11; Ps. 86:8).
  
- 3) All Christians are to bear witness to Christ (Acts 4:31).