

BIBLE STUDY: LESSON 28

Scripture of Lesson: John 15: 18~27

1. World's hatred of Christians vs Christian love

- a. Satan hates Christ and His work, because they destroy his work
 - i. Gen 3: 15 *"I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed."*
- b. Through Adam sin entered into man—Adam's blood flows in each of us. And the sin nature craves sin and hates the truth of God. World = collection of sinful natured individuals. World hates Christ.
 - i. John 3: 19 *"And this is the condemnation: that Light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."*
- c. God has placed a portion of spiritual essence in each of us. Honest souls recognize God's light and respond to it, just as a lost coin in darkness responds to a searching light.
- d. Christian love shines the light of Christ in this dark world in spite of hatred and darkness.

2. World's persecution of Christians and Christian sacrifice

- a. Satan sought to destroy Job without a cause—because Job was a righteous person before God. [Job 2:3]
 - i. Ps 109:3 *"They compassed me about also with words of hatred, and fought against me without a cause."*
- b. The sinfulness of the world hates God's dominion over their lives and work. So they persecute Christians and fights against God's work.
- c. Christians' part: to shine true light of Christ, bear fruits quietly and humbly, show Christ's love to all in spite of hatred and persecution. Light will overcome darkness ultimately.
- d. Let us share experiences of persecution in our lives because of Christ and how we responded to them.

3. Testimony of Holy Spirit through Christian lives

- a. The person of the Holy Spirit
 - i. The Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son.
 1. V. 26 *"Even the Spirit of truth, which proceeds from the Father..."*
 2. Rom 8:9; Phil 1:9 *"Spirit of Jesus Christ"*
- b. Relation of Word and Spirit—not of cause and effect but of promise and fulfillment
 - i. Christ saves us by means of both the written Word of God and the interior illumination of the Spirit.
- c. Spirit and water
 - i. John's gospel portrays the Spirit as the living water that washes away the stain of human sin and corruption [John 4:10~15; 7:37~39]
 - ii. Revelation depicts the Spirit as the water of life that flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb [Rev 22:1]—giving life to trees so they may bear fruits.
- d. Fruits of the Spirit:
 - i. Gal 5: 22-23 *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."*
- e. Works of the Spirit
 - i. Spirit of God reveals the truth of Christ [Rom 1:4]
 - ii. Spirit probes the depths of everything, even the depths of God [I Cor 2:10]
 - iii. Spirit gives life and power to the written word of God [II Cor 3:6]
 - iv. Holy Spirit plays a key role in creation and restoration of humanity and God's creation [Ps 104: 29-30]

- v. Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin and empowers us to believe and obey God. [John 16:8]
- vi. Holy Spirit consoles people of God and guides them into all truth [John 16:13]
- vii. Holy Spirit teaches us to pray and bears witness with our spirit that we are God's children [Rom 8:16]
- viii. Holy Spirit is the revealer, comforter and sanctifier [II Thess 2:13]