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May 4, 2025

#### John 15

#### Jesus the True Vine

We have spoken about this many times that Jesus will use something that is a physical reality in this world to describe a Spiritual truth. These Spiritual Truth's we find in God's Word originate from God the Father and are not of earthly origins. These Spiritual Truths are not from science or are dependent on science to confirm them. They are God's Word and are TRUTH.

This entire chapter is Jesus speaking. He is speaking to all who would come to Love Him, but specifically Jesus is speaking to His disciples and to the Lost Tribes of Israel. We will again see the distinction God makes between "brothers"/ "sisters" in the Lord in other words those BELIEVERS, who love and obey Him as opposed to nonbelievers or what Jesus calls the "world".

11 am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

The point Jesus is making is that everything in creation

including mankind is a design by God. It is He that creates; it is God that plants, it is God that nourishes and it is God that causes growth and brings forth the fruit for harvest.

The God Head premeditated Jesus to be many things, but most importantly to us our Savior. As the God Head planned that relationship between us and our Savior, He showed a set plan to bring it about. Just as a farmer or husbandman would work with a grape vine to cause it to grow in the most productive way, that is how the God Head planed for Jesus' life on earth.

The word "true" as in "True Vine" in the Greek from Strong's Concordance

"Phonetic Spelling: (al-ay-thee-nos')
Short Definition: true, real, genuine
Definition: true (lit: made of truth), real, gen

**Definition:** true (lit: made of truth), real, genuine."

It literally speaks of something being not only true on its face but true to its depths and origin. In other words when Jesus says, "I am the true vine" He is speaking from every aspect of existence, both physical and spiritual. Everything about Jesus is "true". It is why Jesus can say:

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

The next term "vine dresser" in the Greek from Strong's Concordance.

"Phonetic Spelling: (gheh-ore-gos')

Short Definition: a worker of the soil, husbandman, vine-

dresser

Definition: a worker of the soil, husbandman, farmer, farm-laborer, vine-dresser."

In the world many things can grow wild with little attention. The problem with things that grow wild is that they lack needed management of a farmer or husbandman on what it is that their grower wants them to achieve. God could have let the earth continue to grow wild and it would have fared no better than mankind in having total freedom to do as he chose, which ultimately brought about the flood.

There was a time as we look at scripture that seems to show God's arm's length control of the earth after the fall of Adam and Eve. There are several possible reasons why. Perhaps the reasons why do not mean as much as the outcome. What we may learn from that time is that without God's intimate involvement in the lives of mankind, life will go from order to chaos. When the Believers are removed from the earth at Rapture the order we now see on earth will degrade continually to Chaos.

Genesis 6: 1And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. 3And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. 4There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

5And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. (emphasis mine)

The freewheeling earth and its inhabitants needed a reordering, a control direction if you will. A stoppage and a new beginning to intervene in the chaos that had ensued. God chose to use a flood to stop and reorient the world.

From the time of the fall, God warned Adam:

Genesis 3: 17And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life:

<u>18</u>Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Unlike Adam and Eve, God had a most obedient eternal Son that He sent to earth to show earth what was possible in each person's life. That Son would have to die and take on the sin of all mankind in order to set men free from this overwhelming "freewill" that God gave mankind. Freewill comes with great responsibility, something that most of mankind refuses to embrace. They like the freedom but not the responsibility of what sinning really does to them.

America currently is faced with two political beliefs. One belief is personal responsibility, the second is no personal responsibility, IE: "your body your choice"

So, the Husbandman God the Father, directed the footsteps of the Son Jesus, in such a way that He would live a sinless life and become the very sacrifices, the only sacrifice that would fulfill the Law.

The descriptive idea of a vine that is managed and directed shows us the possibility of not only the strength of the vine but all the branches that come from or attach to the vine.

In this scenario of the vine and branches there are two types of branches. Those that grow out of the vine and those that are grafted into the vine. We the gentiles are of the latter sort.

2Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

The Greek word for **branch** in Strong's Concordance

"Phonetic Spelling: (kaly'-mah)
Short Definition: a branch, shoot
Definition: a branch, shoot, twig."

The branch is part of the vine, growing out from the vine as a twig or shoot. For the vine to grow properly as in Jesus' description, means that only those branches that bear fruit are saved, the unfruitful branches are removed and burned in a fire.

This vine Jesus grew from on earth was from a special root of two tribes. The first is called the Root of David, and is the Kingly tribe, the second part of the root is of Levi, the Priestly tribe. The reason for this is that we are told Jesus will be King and High Priest. Israel had 12 tribes, the two premier

tribes from history is Judah and Levi. Judah and Levi were the tribes which the physical Jesus came from. It was through these two tribes that God would send His Son, the "vine".

Revelation 5:5 And one of the elders says to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has overcome to open the scroll and its seven seals."

God's plan is obvious. Plant a "vine" Jesus, that is everything God intends it to be. This vine would grow according to God's Word. The Word would go into the land and those that hear the word would want to attach to the vine for sustenance and life. But not all branches that came from the vine or attached to the vine would produce fruit. God would prune "purgeth" the unfruitful branches away from the vine so that which remained would produce more fruit. Only the branches that were securely attached to the vine of Christ were True Believers.

2Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

The Greek word for "fruit "in Strong's Concordance.

"2590 karpós – properly, fruit; (figuratively) everything done in true partnership with Christ, i.e. a believer (a branch) lives in union with Christ (the Vine). By definition, fruit (2590 /karpós) results from two life-streams – the Lord living His life through ours – to yield what is eternal (cf. 1 Jn 4:17)."

There is a word used in this last verse "Purge" and in the Greek from Strong's Concordance

"kathairo kath-ah'-ee-ro: to cleanse, i.e. (specially) to prune; figuratively, to expiate – purge".

It means to clean. So the branch that produces fruit, the vinedresser cleans it.

In Strong's Concordance it defines it as:

"....to cleanse, properly, from filth, impurity, etc.; trees and vines (from useless shoots), to prune,"

Q. Is it possible for a person that is attached to Jesus to not produces good fruit?

By appearances, it is possible. But in Truth, only those branches that produce good fruit will remain attached to the Vine

Q. How would that happen, that a person appears to be a believer but in reality, does not produce good fruit?

Head knowledge that has not transformed (circumcised) the heart of the man, woman or child is one way. Another way would be through deceit, one imitating a Christian.

3Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

Q. How does this vinedresser clean the good branches?

Through the Word. It is certainly not by osmosis where the Bible is laying in your home and one thinks that is a good way to demonstrate to others their commitment to God, but by actually studying the Word of God for the Spiritual meaning buried within it and walking out that Truth in our lives.

Q. What are the chances of any of us being a good branch if we do not spend time being cleaned by the Word?

The prospect is not good, but only God knows the heart of man.

4Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

In these past two verses the reference is clearly between

Jesus and a person that loves and is obedient to His Commandments. The words depict a direct relationship that is unbreakable.

Q. The evidence of this relationship is what, between Jesus and the believer is?

Much fruit. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit

6If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

This word "Abide" in the Greek in Strong's Concordance

"Phonetic Spelling: (men'-o)
Definition: I remain, abide, stay, wait; with acc: I wait for, await. Intransitive, continue, remain to be, in other words a person that is saved forever in the blood of Christ. Never changing, always with Christ for eternity."

7If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

Folks have taken this verse somewhere perhaps that God did not intend. We just finished talking about the vine and the branch. The vine is the source and the branch simply does what the vine provides for it, if it is ABIDING in the vine. The branch lives only because the vine exists and the vine lives

through the branch. So the branch can do nothing on its own, it can't change what it is. So when Jesus says we can ask what you will and it shall be done unto you.

Q. What do you suppose a branch would ask of the vine? Would it be anything other than what the vine has to offer, or is able to give?

The branch when part of the vine will only ask what it senses the vine wants from it. Whatever is asked would only produce more fruit.

So the name it and claim it doctrine is false on its face. We will know what to ask by abiding in the Word and the Word will tell us what the Vine wants from us and that is what we will ask for. It will not be for personal gain, fame or fortune. It will be to only to produce more fruit.

8Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

We often spend time in what we think is glorifying to God. What does that mean exactly?

The Greek word for "glorified" from Strong's Concordance

"Phonetic Spelling: (dox-ad'-zo)

Definition: I glorify, honor, bestow glory on."

Q. According to verse 8, what is it that "glorifies" God?

"...that ye bear much fruit."

9As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10lf ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Similarly to vs 8 (bear much fruit), these verses give the recipe for receiving two additional things?

### Q. What are they?

That we can abide in Jesus's Love and our Joy might be full.

So to recap how do we glorify God? "Bear much fruit"

What are the side benefits of remaining in Jesus's commandments? "Love and Joy"

12This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Here we come to a verse that we need to think through as to what kind of love is He talking about and how does that affect us? God's Love towards us is a sacrificial love, in that God held nothing back to save us.

So, what kind of Love does God have for mankind. The kind that would lead to sacrificing His own Son to save mankind.

Greater Love has No One than This
13Greater love hath no man than this, that a man
lay down his life for his friends. 14Ye are my
friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

This word "if" is a question of one's willingness to abandon our own personal desires and puts Jesus' commandments first in our lives.

15Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. 16Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

Berean Study Bible

### "No longer do I call you servants

In the cultural context of the time, a servant (or slave) was someone who obeyed commands without necessarily understanding the master's intentions. Jesus elevates His disciples from mere servants to a more intimate relationship. This shift signifies a deeper level of trust and intimacy. In the Old Testament, figures like Moses and David were called servants of God, highlighting their roles in God's plan, but Jesus offers something greater.

# for a servant does not understand what his master is doing

This phrase highlights the limited knowledge and understanding a servant has regarding the master's plans. In biblical times, servants were expected to follow orders without question. Jesus contrasts this with the relationship He offers, where His followers are given insight into God's purposes. This echoes the idea in <a href="#">Amos 3:7</a>, where God reveals His plans to His prophets.

### But I have called you friends

Calling the disciples "friends" indicates a significant shift in relationship. Friendship implies mutual knowledge, trust, and love. In ancient cultures, friendship was a bond of loyalty and shared purpose. This reflects the covenant relationship God desires with His people, as seen in the friendship between God and Abraham (James 2:23)."

As a nation God set Israel aside as a class of people not specifically as individuals but as a nation of 12 tribes. He set aside Israel to become the people or nation that the world could physically see and learn about God the Creator. It would be by the way they served the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that would reveal their complete love and obedience.

It would be from this nation Israel that God would send His own Son to save a sinful world. It was based on a promise to an individual, namely Abraham, whom when asked by God to give up his son Isaac he was willing to do so. That act of obedience revealed Abraham's heart to God, which God already knew, the act was done so we could see what obedient selflessness looked like. We would see it again, but it would be God who would give up His Son to save the entire world.

But just like Israel, there were many who would reject the law of obedience and reject the offer of Grace and Mercy. All of mankind, just like all of Israel was offered the opportunity, but only some "few" accepted it.

Q. Why did God chose Israel over any other people?

Deuteronomy 14:7 It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but git is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God twho keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,

Q. Who does God keep covenants and steadfast love with?

with those who love him and keep his commandments,

Deuteronomy ch. <u>5:10</u>; <u>Ex. 20:6</u>; <u>2 Chr. 6:14</u>; <u>Neh. 1:5</u>; <u>9:32</u>; <u>Dan.</u> 9:4

# 17These things I command you, that ye love one another.

Q. Based on these past verses, who is Jesus telling us to love with this friend or brotherly love? "one another"

To take this point a bit further:

The same can be said about the term "brother" or "sister" in Christ. It is not a casual acquaintance but two people bound by a Spiritual bond that is beyond the flesh and can only be found in the Spirit. Just because someone goes to church or uses the right language when speaking of Christ does not make them a "brother" or "sister" in the Lord, anymore than a causal acquaintance makes another person your "friend" in the truest sense of the word.

Can one appear to be a "brother or sister" in Christ and not really be one?

Mark 3:31There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. 32And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee. 33And he answered them, saying, Who is my mother, or my brethren? 34And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! 35For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

Q. So what is the telltale mark of our "brothers" and "sisters" in the Lord Jesus Christ?

Mark 3:35 For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

So, let's see if God differentiates between what we now know are "brothers" and "sisters" in the Lord to that of the unbelievers even thought they may sit in the pew next to us.

### May 11, 2025

The Hatred of the World
18If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

Q. When God declares that He is at enmity with the "world" what is He speaking of?

KJV Dictionary Definition: enmity

"enmity

EN'MITY, n.

1. The quality of being an enemy; the opposite of friendship; ill will; hatred; unfriendly dispositions; malevolence. It expresses more than aversion and less than malice, and differs from displeasure in denoting a fixed or rooted hatred, whereas displeasure is more transient.

I will put enmity between thee and the woman. Gen.3.

The carnal mind is enmity against God. Rom. 8.

2. A state of opposition.

The friendship of the world is enmity with God. James 4."

Q. So when God is speaking of the "world" He is speaking of anyone who is of the flesh and not of the Spirit? Is that a true statement?

This "worldly" nature does not have to be all out hatred as the definition explains but it is more than aversion and less than malice. There are people and religions that are slowly sinking to this aversion trait. They are willfully devaluing God's Word by claiming that God's Word or Christians are anti this or anti that when they are speaking of sins and the sin nature. IE: Christians are homophobic, xenophobic etc.

The world those who hate God do this to cast themselves as open minded and loving. The world first had to change what God originally called homosexuals they were called sodomites. To give an illustration of how the world tries to make small changes over long periods of time to convince us that God is wrong, and man is right this is from Wikipedia's definition of Biblical homosexual term.

This is from: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia of course a trusted source on all things Biblical. **NOT** 

### The Bible and homosexuality

"Passages in the <u>Old Testament</u> book <u>Leviticus</u> that prohibit "lying with mankind as with womankind: it is abomination" and the story of <u>Sodom and Gomorrah</u> have historically been interpreted as condemning <u>homosexual acts</u>, as have several <u>Pauline</u> passages. Today too some interpreters uphold that understanding of these passages, while other interpreters maintain that they do not condemn homosexuality, saying that historical context suggests other interpretations or that rare or unusual words in the passages may not be referring to homosexuality".

1 Corinthians 5: 6 Your glorying [is] not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

In Bakers Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology he gives both sides to the argument that God really wasn't talking about homosexuals. It is astounding to me that people can read God's Word, claim a personal relationship with Christ and then lie about what His Word says on any number of topics.

Let's take abortion for instance. My thought is this. If you condone the killing of an unborn child in abortion you CANNOT be a Born-Again Believer! That does not mean you can't be saved, but at the moment that you are in that

camp, then you are of the world to such an extent that salvation is likely beyond your reach. If you repent, this includes the physicians and nurses that do the killing, the mother who allowed the killing and all connected with this atrocity are all guilty of murder of an innocent child. The only difference between this tragic event of abortion and the worshipping of Bale was the infant was alive when placed in the super-heated arms of the idol Bale. Even though the Bible does not use the term abortion God made it clear His determination of killing an unborn child.

Jeremiah 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Exodus 21: 22If men who are fighting strike a pregnant woman and her child is born prematurely, e but there is no further injury, he shall surely be fined as the woman's husband demands and as the court allows. 23But if a serious injury results, then you must require a life for a life—

The church in Laodicea was one of Paul's conversions. In Colossians 2, Paul is begging them about their walk.

This very same church in Revelation is used by God to warn us of what the end time church will look like.

Revelaion 3:14And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

151 know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. 16So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 181 counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. 20Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. 21To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

There are local churches/religions and even members of local churches that are disagreeing with God over the very nature of man. There are those who claim Christianity, saying they are Believers that will declare that God will forgive sins where there is no repentance, because He is a God of Love. We have to take the whole council of God as

we study His Word. God has warned us about being lukewarm. He who has an ear let him hear.

19If 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.

From Strong's Concordance, "of the world"

Phonetic Spelling: (kos'-mos)

Definition: the world, universe; worldly affairs; the inhabitants of the

world; adornment.

It is interesting to note what God called as the owner of the world? Only in the King James translation is the term "his own" used. All other translations use the term "its own".

He says the world would love "his" own. Who is God referring to here? Probably Satan. I believe a case can be made that the term World equates to the person of Satan as Satan is the ruler of this world and the inhabitants that the word "kosmos" uses pertains specifically to those people in and of the world.

Q. So in this verse 19, who is Jesus speaking to or about in this verse when He says "if ye"?

19If 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. (emphasis mine)

#### True believers

20Remember 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. 21But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me.

Those who are true believers, friends with Jesus, brothers and sisters in the Lord and Savior will be persecuted and hated for His namesake. The simple reason Jesus gives is because they did not know God, the one who sent Him. You will be hated because you align with Christ the Son and with God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus says: "if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also." What difference does it make what I say? Aren't we talking about what Jesus says? We might be but Jesus isn't. He specifically says that "if they kept my sayings, they will keep yours also". Our words MUST match His Words. Our language MUST be like His language. Why?

Act 2:41 Therefore those indeed having received his word were baptized, and on that day about three thousand souls were added.

You and I are ambassadors of the Most High God and our Savior Jesus Christ. If our language sounds like the world, what do we have to offer our friends and family if we sound like them as non-believers. Just like you and I, we responded to the Truth spoken by someone about Jesus Christ. Did they cuss when they shared the truth with us. Did they share that truth while we sat in a bar drinking becoming drunk? Why would you think that looking like the world would make what you have so attractive that a non-believer would want to abandon their life style and walk with Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:20 Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God is beseeching through us. We implore on behalf of Christ: Be reconciled to God.

Matthew 15:18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

22If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.

Many people have lived in ignorance and have used that ignorance as a defense or cover against judgment. Jesus declares that is an eternal deadly error. The Word declares the truth, those Churches who dare to make homosexuals

pastors, even women as pastors no longer have the excuse of ignorance. When a nation passes laws that protects outright sin, abortion or in the form of homosexuality and sexual immorality that flies in the face of God's position on sin;

Q. What is God's position on sin?

It is already judged!

John 3:18"He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

In <u>Galatians 5:19-21</u>, we are told, "The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

1 Cornithians9:9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name

#### of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Q. So what will God's response be to those who embrace these sins and pass laws protecting the sinners and advocating the propagation of these sins and refuse to repent?

Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

23He that hateth me hateth my Father also. 24lf 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.

What Jesus is declaring is this. The works that He did were clearly miracles that could be done by no man, only by God. And that when they saw these miracles and still hated Him enough to kill Him they had to have known they were indeed killing the Son of God so they have no excuse. They did it out of hatred for Jesus and God. The reverse of this is true according to Jesus. If He had not done these miracles before them, then they would not have known they were killing the Son of God and therefore would not have been in sin by doing what they did.

25But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.

He was innocent, yet they killed Him anyway out of hatred and longing for their power to continue.

26But 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: 27And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.

Romans :...<u>6</u>For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, <u>7</u>because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, <u>8</u>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

James 4: ...3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. 4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5 Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?...

Chose this day, even as Believers whom you will serve!

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

I am as guilty as anyone here about walking in the world even after becoming a Believer. We must abandon that walk in the world TODAY and stand with Christ from this day on.

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