

## King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

*An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries*  
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

### The Book of John Lesson 28 - the cost, the gain

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Read: John 15:17-27  
John 16: 1-33

**P**salm 119:165 says *Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.* If I am offended it is because I have lost touch with God's words, Old Testament or New Testament. John 16:1 *These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. They shall put you out of the synagogues:* This is a specific reference to the disciples that He is with at that point in time. The New Testament church in the year 2012 is not in any great danger of being put out of the synagogues. Yet the principle applies, it will cost you something in the religion that you are in, if you decide to follow Jesus rather than that religion.

Six men were put out of Oxford University for praying. Among them were John Wesley, Charles Wesley and George Whitfield. They threw them out of the University, they were spending too much time praying. It was making the other students and professors nervous. So they got rid of them.

*...yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.* He is talking to the disciples. The immediate reference would be – that Jewish leader stoning Stephen. (Acts 7.) You have Saul killing Christians in Acts 8, Saul of Tarsus. So the first persecution of the church was not at the hands of the Roman government or the Roman emperors. It was at the hands of the same Jews that had killed Jesus. Look what the Lord says about their heart. These people honestly believe they were serving God by killing these disciples of the Lord Jesus.

How could they think such a thing? Turn to Deuteronomy 13. Remember, what was their issue with Jesus? When did they come into conflict with Jesus? When He broke the Sabbath. He came along and claimed to be God. In their eyes it showed disrespect or disregard for the law. It was the law that commanded Sabbath observance. Jesus says that He is greater than the Sabbath.

Deuteronomy 13:1-10. *If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, (Did not Jesus give them signs and wonders? Was He not a prophet?) And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not*

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*known, and let us serve them;* (Well, did not Jesus claim to be God? They had not known a god in a body of flesh;) *Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.* (And then you go down in verse 6.) *If thy brother... or thy son... or thy friend... or is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known... (Verse 8.) Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him... (Verse 9) But thou shalt surely kill him... (Verse 10) And thou shalt stone him with stones, that he die; because he hath sought to thrust thee away from the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt....*

Now, this is what you have to understand. On the plus side for the Jewish leaders and the Pharisees, if Jesus Christ is turning men away from the true and living God of Israel and away from the law, from the Sabbath observance, then He should have been put to death. And His followers who would then in the book of Acts time period would turn men away from the God of Israel and the Old Testament law to follow this Jesus, then they too should be put to death. You can understand scripturally why these men believed they were serving God by killing Jesus and by killing His disciples. The only thing that would make them wrong is if Jesus Christ was the God who brought them out of Egypt. You see, if Jesus is not God, then the law of God says you have to kill Him and those who are converting your brethren and convincing them to follow Him. He is evil and you have to kill them to rid the land of that evil. If He is God, then you should worship Him and follow Him, not kill Him or His followers. So the issue came down to His claims of Deity and their rejection of those claims. But that is why they thought they were serving God when they killed Him.

Read the testimony of Paul, (and we will look at that when we get to the book of Acts,) but he said I was serving God. I was blameless.” Why? Well, he could not have been blameless killing people unless he had some legal basis as an Israelite for doing so. The legal basis is Deuteronomy 13

Verse 3. *And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.* Because they did not know that Jesus Christ was

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the Father - God the Father manifest in a body of human flesh. That is why they would persecute His followers because they did not know who He was.

*But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you. But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart.* That would make me feel sorry too. He said, You all were not this sad when I told you I was going away, but now you are real sad because I tell you that some of you might be killed, look what that says about yourself.

Verse 7. *Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away:* We saw in chapter 1 the fullness of the Godhead dwelleth in Him and yet He said, it is better for you that I leave than it would be if I stayed for this reason. *...for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.* Jesus Christ as God in the flesh is limited. He can only be at one place at a time. The Holy Spirit as God is not limited. He can be in numerable places at the same time. Jesus Christ as God in a body of flesh cannot get inside me and live inside me. He can walk beside me. He can sit bedside me. He can talk to me. But He can't get in me and actually live His life in my body. The Holy Spirit can. It will be better when I am gone than it has been when I am here.

Third reason, have they not had Jesus teaching them for three and a half years and yet they lack understanding? When He goes away and the Holy Spirit comes, the Holy Spirit will give them the understanding they lacked when He was with them. So the Lord says, it is better for me to go; it is better to you to go because the Comforter will come.

Verse 8. *And when he is come,* (So notice the Comforter is a person. He did not say *when it is come*, He said, when **HE** is come.) *he will.* He also included some definitive statements that the Comforter would accomplish when He came

(Number 1) *reprove the world of sin,*

(Number 2) He will reprove the world *of righteousness, and*

(Number 3) He will reprove the world *of judgment:*

"Reproof", that is to speak in strong convincing terms, notice, He is not coming to reprove the believers. He is coming to reprove the world.

First of all, He will reprove the world of sin. Verse 9 says, *Of sin, because they believe not on me;* In our witnessing, preaching, and public presentation of the gospel, do you understand that the only sin that costs a man his soul is not believing on the Lord Jesus Christ? That is the sin the Holy Spirit wants the world to know will send them to hell. The murderer, the thief, the liar, or

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the kidnapper can be forgiven. The person who does not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ cannot be forgiven. That is the sin that the Holy Spirit wants to reprove the world of committing. He wants to strongly convince them that it is a sin to not believe on Jesus Christ.

Number two. He will reprove the world of righteousness. Verse 10. *Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;* Do you understand what the Lord just said? We are not to point this world to the righteousness of our church, our cause, our minister, or even of ourselves. Jesus Christ is leaving this world. The only true righteousness this world has ever known is about to go back to heaven. The Holy Spirit is going to come and what He is going to tell the world there is only one righteous person who has ever set foot on this planet and that is Jesus Christ who is now at the right hand of the Father. He will reprove the world of righteousness; *Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;*

Listen to these words from Romans 10:1-4. *Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, (God's is the only righteousness) and going about to establish their own righteousness, (which is not righteousness at all, it is filthy rags. Isaiah 64:4) have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law FOR righteousness to every one that believeth.* What does the Holy spirit say to the world if the world will listen? The only righteousness that counts is God's righteousness in Christ, not your righteousness.

Number three. He will reprove the world of judgment. Verse 11. *Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.* There is someone in this world who is more powerful, has been closer to God's throne, who knows more scripture than any man who has ever lived, that one is Satan. And Jesus Christ has defeated him, has cast him out. He will bind him, chain him and throw him in a lake of fire. Since that is going to happen to someone as powerful, as beautiful, as intelligent, as grand as Satan, you and I, do not stand a chance.

The greatest being that God created was Lucifer. Without Jesus Christ you are going to end up in a lake of fire. The kids today say "Satan Rules..." What a dumb thing to say. He rules lost people. He rules according to Job 41 over all the children of pride. He is the king over every unsaved person. But their king is going to end up judged and sentenced to hell. Where is that going to leave his followers? In a Lake of Fire forever.

There are seven witnesses to the Deity of Jesus Christ in John's gospel:

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- (1) The Father. (John 5:32; 5:37; 8:18)
- (2) The Son. (John 8:14; 18:37)
- (3) The Holy Spirit. (John 15:26; 16:13-14)
- (4) The written word. (John 1:45; 5:39; 5:46)
- (5) The works. (John 5:17; 5:36; 10:25; 14:11; 15:24.)
- (6) The fore-runner. (John 1:7; 5:33-35)
- (7) His disciples. (John 15:27; 19:35; 21:24)

John 15:25 But as it *is written in their law, they hated me without a cause.* Come back to Psalm 69:4 *They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away.* That is just a thrilling truth. Jesus did not take away my life, but He restored it. He did not take away my holiness before the Father, but He restored it. He did not take away my communion with God, but He restored it. He did not take away my uprightness, but He restored it. Sin took it away, but Jesus gave it back.

Now, in light of that, here is what we need to think about. According to Psalm 69:4, did not the hatred of the Lord's enemies ultimately result in good? If I am being hated for the cause of Christ, if I am being persecuted for the cause of Christ, can I not by faith believe that ultimately this will be for good? And so the Lord says, "I want you to bless and curse not. I want you to suffer and threat not. I want to be reviled and reviled not again because this is bigger than you." The suffering of Jesus worked out good for you. And your suffering will work out good for somebody that comes after you, so just try and keep your eyes on Him and go through it and bear up under it the best you can and trust that God is going to bring good to pass out of something that is very, very bad. Easy to say. Hard to do. But that is why we have to abide in Him and let His word abide in us. So when these things happen, we are ready and we are prepared. Amen.

Notes

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**The Book of John****Lesson 28 - the cost, the gain**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read: John 15:17-27

John 16: 1-33

1. What does John 15 verse 18 teach that makes verse 17 so important?
2. What four things do we learn of the world's hatred in John 15:18-21?
3. Compare Luke 10:17; Matthew 15:2 and John 18:8 is there any record of the disciples being persecuted while Jesus was with them?
4. In light of context, how do you explain the change after Pentecost?
5. What does the Lord assume when He promises men will keep the disciple's sayings?
6. What does John 15:21 teach us about those who claim to believe in God and yet reject Jesus?
7. Discuss the comparison between John 3:19-21 and John 15:22
8. In question 7, does the Lord mean these were not sinner before He came?
9. Explain question 8.

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10. According to John 15:22-24 what two things agreed perfectly in Jesus' life?
11. Explain John 16:1 in light of Matthew 11:1-6
12. Give examples of John 16:2 from the book of Acts
13. What does John 16:3 teach regarding those who kill for religious reasons?
14. What do we learn from John 16:4 about being prepared for the Lord's work
15. Explain the following terms:  
 persecute cloak  
 synagogues

true/false

- the true believer will be persecuted for his belief in Jesus, this only applies to the Jews
- Jesus did more with his church while He was here on earth, than the Holy Spirit can ever do.
- Our Christian life style is the best testimony to the lost world.



Scripture memorization (write out these verses on the back page in KJV only) John 16:1; Luke 17:1; Romans 16:17

any questions?