

THE WORLD

JOHN 15:17-16:4

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND— According to Barclay (John, p.186) the “world” means human society organizing itself without God.

WILL HATE YOU. If Jesus is your Lord, you will probably lose the world’s popularity contest! (**John 15:17-19, fn 15:17, I John 3:13, John 17:13-18, fn 17:18, Matthew 5:42-48, fn 5:43,44**) *Why does God ask us to love those who hate us? How do you react to people who dislike you?*

WILL PERSECUTE YOU. “The more authentic our walk (with Jesus), the more likely we will face some form of persecution.” Kent Hughes, John, p. 375. (**John 15:20,21, John 16:1-4, fn 16:1-16, fn 16:2, Matthew 5:10-12, fn 5:11, 12, Philippians 1:27-30, fn 1:29, fn 1:30, I Thessalonians 3:2-8, fn 3:4, fn 3:7, 8, II Timothy 3:10-15, fn 3:12, I Peter 4:12-19, fn 4:14-16**) *How have you experienced persecution because of your relationship to Jesus, and how did you respond?*

WILL HATE GOD WITHOUT REASON. (**John 15:22-27, fn 15:26[1st], Psalms 69:4, fn 69:1ff, Romans 1:18-32, fn 1:21-32**) *How can you help your unbelieving friends come to know and love God?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.