

Open to John 15. This is our lesson - the latter part of the 15th Ch. of John. I hope you can read this. John 15: 12 is where we are. Now most of this lesson today is going to deal with the conflict between the world- the unbelieving world on one hand; and God's people on the other. And we're going to look at the enemiy of the Xtn and show how he can be defeated.

You see, we MUST know our enemy in the Xtn life and we must know how to defeat him. Some people never understand who the enemy is; they never know to defeat the enemy; therefore, they live in constant defeat. You can be a Xtn and be a defeated Xtn. But that's because you don't know the Word and you haven't appropriated the weapons of God to live a victorious, positive, radiant, powerful life.

God wants you to live a radiant, victorious life where a negative word will never pass over your lips and where your life will be filled with praise unto Jesus and where you, in the darkest hour, will see the sunlight shine through. But we have to look at V. 12 thru 16, which is dealing with something very, very important in the Xtn life, also.

John 13:34 repeated in 15:12 + 15:17
V. 12 (read) when we get to V. 17, He'll repeat this. He has already stated this in Ch. 13:34. You see, at the very center of the Xtn life must be love one for another. Not just love for Jesus. Notice, He says 'I command you that you love one another' - how? - 'As I have loved you'. Now this is a higher commandment than the commandment 'thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself'.

We're to love the unbelieving world as ourself, but we're to love our brothers in Christ, in a deeper measure than we love an unbelieving world. We're to

even
love our brothers, ~~xxx~~ as Jesus has loved us. Now having said this, He goes on to illustrate how Jesus has loved us that we might understand how we are to love one another.

V. 13(read) how much did Jesus love us? So much that he laid down His life. What does it mean 'lay down his life'? The whole idea is - it was a voluntary sacrifice. Jesus was not forced for Bill Bennett - neither for you. He did it because He loved us. I never cease to be amazed at the love of Jesus for Bill ~~Rix~~ Bennett. I don't understand it. He voluntarily died for me. He died for you. He ~~xxx~~ laid down His life.

John 3:16, 1 Jn. 4:10

All right, He says you and I, if it comes to that, should be willing to lay down our life for our brothers. You see, it's easy to say 'I love you'.

It's easy for me to say 'I love you' but listen, the test of my love is the length to which I'm willing to sacrifice for your well being. God expects His people to love one another.

He expects Baptomethapaliancongapresbygassionists to love one another. One of the scandals of the modern world is the fighting between denominations. No wonder there are so many people out yonder that you can't get in to a church. They've seen so much hate and bitterness between people who say they are children of God. We are to go to the fullest extent in showing our love rather than attacking our brothers. Rather than tearing them down, simply because they disagree with us. We should be pouring on the love of God, toward them.

V. 14(read_) He speaks of wonderful Truths which shows further of His love, as He expands in later verses. Well, what has He commanded? In the context, He said ; 'love one another'. 'As I have loved you'. He says 'now ye are

my friends, if you DO this'. Who are the friends of Jesus Christ? Those who really love their brothers as He has loved us. The longer I live the Xtn life, and minister to people, the more I see the importance of LOVING people, ~~for~~ just what they are.

B.E. MORRIS
My father in the ministry, pastored a church for 20 years and he did a great job and I ran upon him, right after he had resigned his church and I said to him 'as an elderly man to a young man, if you just had to make one statement what you'd do, if you had your life to live over and your ministry to live over, what would you say?'

This wise man looked me in the eyes and he said 'Bill, I would say 'love more'. If I had it to do over, I would love people more'. He was a man who had such a determination. Such a strong physical man. No mealy mouth, Mikey Mouse preacher at all, but he said 'Bill, I didn't love. I didn't LOVE'. 'Not as much as I ought to'.

XX Jesus says 'you're My friend. You show you're My friend by loving My people'. That's in the context, of this commandment that 'ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you'. *Jesus told Paul he was persecuting his people when he 60 him.*
V.15(read) now He says 'you are MY friend, if you do whatever I have commanded you' but in V.15 'I don't look upon you as just servants of Mine. But, I have given you a new title. I say ye are My Friends. Read rest of V.15.. what a blessed statement that is. You see, we generally think of God as being way up here and He is - Holy, almost unapproachable, but God comes down to the most personal level to us and He says 'I'm not just your Saviour and I'm not just Omnipotent God up here; you are My friends'.

Do you have a real friend today? Well, surely you do. How much do you value that? This is a wonderful thing to have a friend, on the personal level. JC comes along - the Great God of Heaven - who has all power - and He says 'you are My friends. I call you Friends because there's no barrier between Me and you. I've let you in on all the secrets of God'.

Denis my best friend

I like to think of my wife, not just as being my wife. I say she's my wife - she's also my best friend. And I love my wife and I love my marriage because I don't only have a wife; I've got a friend. But the greatest friend

pp 25

is Jesus and He's not kept back anything from us. He wants to share with us ALL things. Sometimes our hearts are unbelieving and sometimes, we're a distance from Him because of sin in our lives, but listen, if we really will keep our sins confessed and obey Him, He will constantly reveal and we'll have an intimacy with Him and a friendship that's indescribable.

1 person in Bible v. "friend of God" - Isa. 41:18 + Ja. 2:23

The friendship with Jesus is just wonderful. Now there's a background for this phrase 'Friend of God'. By the way, only one person in the Bible was called 'The Friend of God' and that was Abraham. He's so called in Is. 41:8 and it's picked up in James 2:23. Why do you think Abraham was called a friend of God? Because he obeyed God. We say that Abraham was a man of faith - he was. But the chief hallmark of the life of Abraham was obedience to the extreme - even to the offering of his son, Isaac, in sacrifice.

Ab. loved God (God's son) through he was willing

But there's a background to this word. In the eastern courts, there was

group of people who were called the 'Friends of the King' and the Friends of the King had complete access to him. He saw the Friends before he saw the Generals, the Statesmen, the high-ups in the world. These were his special people. They could even come to his bed chamber. That's what the Bible says about Jesus Christ. We can absolutely come where He is and He's

a group of people who were called the 'Friends of the King' and the Friends of the King had complete access to him. He saw the Friends before he saw the Generals, the Statesmen, the high-ups in the world. These were his special people. They could even come to his bed chamber. That's what the Bible says about Jesus Christ. We can absolutely come where He is and He's

tremendously interested in us and He's not just God. He is our Friend. Oh, I cherish the friendship of Jesus more than anything. I'm so glad that Jesus is my Friend. I'm grateful for your friendship - I really am - you're grateful for my friendship - but I'd rather have the friendship of Jesus today, than any friendship in all the world. Let's move on. He says in

Heb 4:12-16

V.16(read) want a statement on salvation and the ~~xxxxxx~~ call of the Xtn. Jesus says 'you didn't choose Me.' Now He's speaking of that initial call of God. Every Xtn has chosen the Lord but only because the Lord called him. God took the first step. God always does that. We don't seek after God until His Spirit seeks us. God's always seeking us.

SM - "Have you found the Lord?"

You ever heard the expression 'have you found Christ' or 'have you found God'? A little boy was asked this question 'have you found Christ?' He said 'no, He wasn't lost! Christ was never lost. But I was. And He found me'. That's what the Bible teaches. We don't FIND Christ. Until He finds us. You see, that's what the Bible teaches. 'Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen YOU'. I can't take any credit for anything in my salvation. Even the call of God upon my life was the call of the Sovereign Grace of God.

God dealt with my heart very early

I'm amazed, as a boy back in N. Caroline, how God dealt with my heart. I was working hard on a farm from sun to sun - God convicted me of sin. I remember when I went to an old fashioned altar, in a Wesleyan meeting. In a Wesley meeting. A missionary reached and God spoke to my heart. That's so wonderful and then called me to preach. I didn't choose preaching. He chose me. I don't understand it. That's the way the Xtn life is.

It's so wonderful. It's of God's Grace, from the beginning to end. And after He speaks, you can reject Him and in a sense, you choose Him but He's

already dealt with your heart. He's been preparing you through His wondrous Grace. 'Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have ordained you that ye should go and bring forth fruit'. We deal with that last time. God has saved us that we might bear fruit. We're the branches. We bear the fruit; Jesus produces it but the branches have to bear it.

The fruit of Jesus is born in our lives. The internal ~~spirit~~ fruit of the spirit but that external fruit of Spiritual Reproduction, whereby we bring others into the Kingdom of God. We reproduce ourselves in the souls of others. I went into great detail of that last time. God has saved us - not that we just sit and absorb but that we reproduce ourselves. And He says our fruit will last. Promises to give us a fruit that will last.

Then He ties to that a great prayer promise. He says (read latter part of V.16) when we are involved on the mission of the Lord, bearing fruit, our prayers will always be answered. That's stated in V. 7. I can ask God to bless my ministry, if I'm on the mission of Christ. I can't ask Him to bless it, if I'm on a mission of selfishness. But I really am doing what Jesus wants me to do, He's promised to bless it, not only that, but He's promised to give me a fruit that will remain.

I believe this. I see it all the time. It's wonderful how the Lord chooses us, through His Sovereign Grace, send us out that we will be effective. There WILL be a fruit that will last and He says 'I will answer your prayers.' What a promise. We have to move on lest we get into a big sermon here, because there's several sermons just in V. 16.

V. 18 - Trans from subj. of love to
Harold.

Now, having said this; He's been talking about love one for another; He's been talking about His love for His people; He turns to an entirely subject.

He turns to hatred - to the hatred of the world. Toward God's people. That's what He's gonna deal with now. And so, again in V. 17, believe it or not, three times in the same evening, probably within the hour of one another, He commands His people to love one another.

John 4:7

I used to write a column in a church paper, Not here, I may renew it, though. And I'd always close my column to the people with the words of I John 4:7 'Beloved, let us love one another.' I believe the Lord spoke to my heart in my first pastorate and said 'that's a good thing to say to people all the time'. Why does Jesus constantly command us to love one another? Isn't it enough to say it one time? No, it's never enough to say the truth one time.

v. 17 - Jesus keeps repeating "Love one another" for emphasis
Every time I preach, I'm just preaching something that you've already heard but which you need to be reminded of. You see, the Truth gets away from us in the world and we need to be reminded. But why would He keep reminding His people to love one another. Do Xtns need to be reminded to love one another? Indeed, they do. You know why? Because our nature is selfishness; is to live for self. And love is the opposite of selfishness.

My nature - your nature - is to live for self. To live for my family - to live for self rather than give myself to others. So I have to be reminded all the time 'Bill, don't live for yourself. Give your life away to Jesus and others.' But not only that, I want to tell you this, if you this, if you don't know it. The devil is all the time tryint to put bitterness in the heart of one Xtn toward another Xtn.

I don't know. He just wants to do this. He wants to put suspicion; he wants to put doubt; he wants to put jealousy; he just wants to do this.

And he does this. He does this. And, often, the worst attitudes in the world are between Xtns. Sometimes right in the church. We have such a beautiful fellowship in this church, but I hear of so many churches where they're fussing and fighting, right in the church.

We must be reminded all the time to love one another. It's not easy to love. It'll cost you. It'll cost you time. It'll cost you money. It'll cost you prayers. It'll cost you a visit to the hospital. It'll cost you words. It'll cost you apologies. It'll cost you everything to love and you've got to be reminded to ~~ik~~ do that. It's not natural; it's super-natural to love.

And so Jesus continually keeps before HIs people in ^①John 13:34; ^②John 15:12 and ^③John 15:17 He says 'I want to remind you again, be sure to love one another.' And you know, in studying this in the last week, it's made me tremendously conscious in my own life, that I must love and I hope it has you. *We need to love one another for the world hates us.* But He's saying this also for another reason. Jesus knew that the world's not gonna love you. Listen, everybody needs a church ~~xxxx~~ where he can be loved and he needs to be in a fellowship of love. Because the old world, out yonder, doesn't love you. You're in a fellowship of love right here now. But in the morning, you may go to a job where you're surrounded by hate. Even persecution and unkind words. You need to be loved, by your brothers and sisters.

I realize in one sense, that while I am in this thing, day in and day out, maybe I'm more protected than some of my lay people who are out here with the world and unbelievers. People will tend to respect the preacher. And I pray all the time 'Lord, take care of my people out yonder, who are thrown with pagans and infidels and immoral people. Take care of them'. And so often

people will tell me of the hatred that's been heaped on them at their jobs and I am specially concerned about new converts who don't know how to handle this.

Jesus is so practical and He loves us so much that He ~~warns~~ warns us all the time of that which will come. If we know our Bible, there'll never ~~be a surprise~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ be a surprise. You can't be surprised if you know your Bible and to be forewarned is always to be forearmed. So Jesus simply tells us 'now you just as well expect this: the world out yonder is not gonna like you'. So lets' look at it in V. 18:

V.18 (read) now in a few moments, I'm gonna talk about the three enemies of the Xtn life. Here's the FIRST ONE and they're all different and yet, they're real enemies. We have one of them listed here:

FIRST: The World. The world is an enemy of the Xtn. Has to be- there's no other way. But not only the world, there is

SECOND: The Flesh. Now the world and the flesh are NOT the same.

THIRD: The Devil. There is the a triumphrite of evil that is against the Child of God. You cannot avoid it and be a Xtn. But he goes on to say 'if the world hate you, he know that it hated Me before it hated you'. If the world hates us, we're in good company. It hated Jesus.

And really the world doesn't hate us for ourselves, generally. Now sometimes a Xtn can be obnoxious and dont' ever be so heavenly minded that you're no earthly good. Don't put on this pious front. -People dont' want this. Be a real human being. We'ver VERY human no matter how spiritual we are. We must be that. But, as a rule, the Xtn ~~does~~ is not hated because of himself,

but because of Christ.

I decided that years ago, when people rejected the Gospel which I preached, they're not rejecting me, really, they're rejecting Jesus. They're rejecting Him and that's helped me a great deal. And they may not know this but this is true. It's the Christ that's in you that you represent. If the hates you, ye know that it hated Me before it hated you.

V. 19(read) now, He is not saying that the world hates religious professors. The world doesn't. If you're just a church member and you've never been born again and you're not trying to live for Jesus, the world will love you.

XX The world loves the religious man without Christ. The world loves the religious preacher who dares to stand up. The world loves the religious preacher who spends all of his time in the clubs, on the golf course and socializing and fraternizing but won't preach teh Word of God. WON'T stand for Jesus.

A part of the crowd. Jesus says it takes a special type of person that the world hates. He says 'the world hates you because I chose you out of the world and you are not OF the world'. You see, God has called His people OUT of a world of sin. Now He's not taken them out of the physical world. Jesus says 'IN the world but not OF the world'. The Xtn is IN the world but he doesn't partake of the ways of the world. He just doesn't have the spirit.

He just doesn't have the outlook. He just doesn't have the philosophy of the world. For instance, this world is materialistic. The world says 'don't give away your money to a church. Don't get excited about this. Spend it on yourself'. Xtn says 'Christ has taught me to give.' The world says 'hit back and strike back'. The Xtn says 'No, I don't do that.' The World says 'it's all right to committ a little immorality. All right to cut corners'.

The Xtn says 'no'. 'I want to be clean, I want to be honest'. And the world doesn't like it. You see, the World always suspects people who are different from it but expecially if that person's personal standard con-
demns them. See?

And sometimes, people are fired on ~~thix~~ their job because they make it so unpleasant for ungodly people. That happens all the time. Just their pres-
ence is a condemnation of the ungodly. YOU don't have to say a word if you're a real Xtn to condemn certain things. You understand that. That's what Jesus is saying.

SM When I was on the farm, you had to put chickens which were alike with chickens. I remember one time, my mother put a chicken with different markings in the pen of another kind of hens and those hens picked that chicken to death. That's the way people are. They want you to be like them. They want you to talk like them. They want you to go where they go. They want you to have the same standard and when you rise up above that and say 'I'm going this way' they don't like it.

SM - 1st Umbrella - Jonas Hamway

That's really Christ in you. You know, when the umbrella was introduced into the world, a man by the name of Jonas Hamway, walked down the street of London, carrying an umbrella, as harmless a thing as an umbrella, but it was the first one that had ever been used and he was actually pelted with stones and dirt. He was persecuted. You pay a price, if you're gonna be different. People want you to be like they are.

God's people have been called OUT of the world - not to be obnoxiously pecu-
liar, but to be moral and ethical and to honor Jesus and Jesus says 'the world simply hates you because you're not like they are'.

V.20(read) Jesus is simply saying that if He Himself was persecuted, we cannot expect to avoid that. You say 'but we dont' live in that kind of age. This was back when the law was against us'. Persecution takes different forms in different ages - I'll admit that. It's more sophisticated; it's more subtle today. It's still there.

You just cannot remove it. It's in the form of social ostracism or you don't get the recommendation to the job or you don't get the promotion or you're dismissed. You're not invited to certain places, you know. Not physical persecution, but often mental persecution. But true Xtns learn to handle this and stand right in the midst of it and to witness.

✕ If they put Jesus on a cross, you can't expect to ride in a royal chariot, without any persecution. If they crowned Him with thorns, you can't expect the world to give you garland and orchids. It's impossible. Did you know the Bible says in II Tim. 3:12 'ye, all that will live Godly and in Christ Jesus, shall suffer persecutions'? Doesn't say what kind. Nothing is worse than for a Xtn to try to please everybody and to go along with everybody.

2 Tim. 3:12

Totally destructive to a preacher. Totally destructive to a spiritual leader. But really destructive to a layman, Indeed. We just have to decide. We just have to realize the world can't love us because we're NOT of the world, if we're true Xtns. ~~WxxxxxKfx~~ If we haven't felt this, we ought to ask ourselves the question 'are we just a professor, pretending and we really dont' love JC?' It's inevitable. It's inexcusable.

V.21(read) 'for My name's sake' - I've already dealt with that. On account of My name. Now He says it's all because of Me. When we realize ~~this~~ this, it helps tremendously. We must not, however, be self-righteous and, as I've

said, Xtns do foolish things that gets them into trouble. WE ought to be very, very careful here. But IF we're really living for Jesus and we are serving Him, speaking His word, witnessing for Him, and th world hates us, remember it's because of Jesus. It's on account of the name of Jesus.

NOT because of us. They don't hate us really. They just take it out on us because ~~xxxxxxx~~ we're the visible witness to Jesus.

V.22(read)now here's a statement that cannot be taken in an absolute sense. Some SCrip. cannot, but it must be studied in it's context. There was sin before Jesus ever came into the world Rom. 1:2 says that the heathen world was guilty before God. But what Jesus is saying is 'my appearance in the presence of men has removed all excuses for sin because I, incarnate love perfection, I've come to man. Therefore, there's no excuse. I've come. I've told them the ways of God and that's intensified their sin'! Do you not see?

YOU see, God holds man responsible for the life he has. Jesus says 'it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomarrah - more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon - these pagan cities - than it will for Capernaum.' Why? Capernaum saw the Saviour. These other places did not. See? Our sins intensifies according to the Light we have. Some churches are responsible for more than other churches because they've heard more Gospel. Some Xtns know a great deal more. We're responsible for all we've heard. And we're gonna have to answer according to the Light that God has given us.

And when Jesus came in the flesh, God in the flesh, He, absolutely, confronted man with GOD'S Truth. And those who reject Jesus, indeed, are under great condemnation. America is far more responsible than Russia. No one in this

country can fail to be guilty beyond words, if he lives his life without Christ and faces Christ in the Judgment. That's the great principle in Scrip. taught throughout.

V.23(read) that's true. The unity of the Godhead. We cannot hate Jesus and not hate the Father. We have people, sometimes, say 'well, I love God but I don't have any place for Jesus'. Oh no, Jesus IS the revelation of God. ~~ifxixhndxndxndxndx~~

V. 24(read) Jesus says I have done works that no man has ever done. Now John came and he preached a great message. They had the prophesy of Isaiah. They had great Light through the law of Moses, but Jesus says 'something better than John; something better than Isaiah- has come. God has come in flesh. ' And your sin is so much greater because you would not believe.

Ps. 35+69 - they hated without cause

V. 25(read) what a statement. And that's found in Ps. 35 and that's found in Ps. ⁶⁹65: 'they hated Me without a cause'. Was there any cause in Jesus for them to hate Him? No, none whatsoever. Will they hate you without a cause? Indeed, they will. There was nothing in the character of Jesus that should have caused them to hate Him. He was absolutely HOly. There was nothing in the Words of Jesus, if they, themselves, were right in their hearts, that should have hurt them.

There was nothing in the deeds of Jesus - 'they hated Me' He says 'without a cause'. And they did. But you know what this word 'without a cause' means? Literally, in the Greek? It's just one word. It's 'dorea' it's the word for 'gift'. And if you'll literally translate it, here's what it would say:

that I did not earn.
5X 'they gave to me the gift of hatred'. 'Though I loved the world and though I came and offered myself for the world, in exchange, they gave me the gift

of hate.' That's what the world gave Jesus. They nailed Him to a cross,
without a cause. AND that's where we better stand as Xtns. If ~~xxx~~ I am
hated by the world, let it be because I stood for Christ. Not that I did
something foolish myself and was promoting myself. Let it be for Christ.

If I am persecuted, preaching the Word of God, let it be that I really
preached THE Word and not propagate my prejudice. But that I preached THE
Word of the living GOD. On my job, if someone hates me, if I don't get pro-
motions, let it be because I was a clean man and an honest man. Not because
I was lazy; not because I was undependable; not because I was not what I
ought to be. Trying to hide myself behind Christ and saying 'Christ will
take care of me, though I have failed in my personal life'. Let that not be.

Sometimes I have people to come to me who've got their lives all messed up
and they're Xtns and it's because of their own foolishness. It was not God
that they were representing - it was themselves. 'They hated Me without a
cause'. The enemies of the Xtn. What is the Xtn to do in the midst of
the hatred? Is he to hate that? Never. Is he to become embittered? Never.

What's he to do? He's to witness. To WITNESS? EXACTLY! He's to witness.
How ~~in the world~~ in the world can he do it? Because the HS has come. And that's
exactly what Jesus says in V.26

cf 15:26 + (16:7-1)

V.26(read) 'Comforter' we've already dealt with this word - the 'perocclotus'
the one 'called alongside'. Some translate it 'the replacement of Jesus'.
But when the HS is come, whom I will send unto you. The world hates you and
speaks against you. I've sent One in the world that will testify against
the world. The HS. And you can mark it down - if you stand for Christ, the
HS will speak to an unbelieving world. I've seen the HS control evil men.

The HS is working with the enemies of Christ all the time. Condemning them, putting them down, putting them out of business. I talked to a man last night that was in a church that was having some difficulties. Used to come to this Bible class and he went back to a church because he thought God wanted him to be there, to serve. And I commended him on this.

And he said 'you know, w e had some trouble makers in the church, but the HS just put his hand on them'. You don't - listen - you don't need to worry about any enemy of Christ. I'm not worried about any enemy. I've seen the Lord handle every one of them. The HS comes and what does He do? He shows them the Truth. He condemns them, Himself. He testifies. He's the Spirit of Truth. HE's come into the world and He's active, all the time.

Isa. 59:19b

He's doing His work and the world cannot defeat the Xtn, if the Xtn understands. But then, He says

V.27(read) witness is same word as testify in V. 26. The HS is come into the world to testify against the world. But also, YOU shall testify. Because of the HS. How in the world can we stand against an unbelieving, carnal, pagan world? Through the power of the HS. Let me tell you, when the world comes at you and hates you and rejects you, that's the time to cling to Jesus and HE will ALWAYS see you ~~thru~~ through. I've never -- He's never failed me - one time!!! He'll cause you to love your enemies; he'll cause you to be sweet; He'll give you opportunities to turn the other cheek; He'll give you opportunities to show that you've found the best way.

Now you can't do this yourself. Suppose you have a cantankerous neighbor? I don't and I hope you don't. I have good neighbors. Sometimes, they're

cantankerous because we've not done right. Let us be sure that we're not the cause. Suppose you have a cantankerous neighbor. Hard to love a cantankerous neighbor, isn't it? What you gonna do? Ask Jesus to love that neighbor through you, and see what happens.

You can't love the neighbor within your own self. But Jesus can love that neighbor, through you. That's a beautiful thing. You see that working and that neighbor realizes something's happened to you that didn't happen to them. Happen to them and they'd get under conviction. They want to come to your church. They say 'well, that person's got something I didn't have'.

God's called us to LOVE this world - not reject it. Not to kick it around. But to Love it and He's given us power to do it. Power of the HS, that's what He's talking about.

Now I just want to say a word about the enemies of the Xtn. I've listed them here. We've talked about the World. Stay with me about five more minutes. We've talked about the World. What is the world? Well, we're not talking about the physical world. Enjoy the physical world. Go to the mountains, go to the ocean; praise God for this physical world. We're not talking about that.

We're talking about the 'kosmos' an organized system of evil. Society organized. It's without the Xtn. It's opposed to the will of God. It's the philosophy; it's the outlook of men without God. Looks good. It's humanism; it's secularism but it's opposed to the will of God. It opposes you. See? It's a philosophy. It's a philosophy of Life. That's the world.

What is the FLESH? The flesh is something entirely different. The flesh is

the inward disposition in man of evil. It's the old nature of man, that's opposed to the will of Christ. It's on the inside of us. We're born with it. We're born AGAIN and when we're born again, we can definitely have victory over the old nature, but the old nature is still there, trying to gain ascendancy.

It's the very nature of man's ungenerate self. That's the Flesh - internal.

What the devil? The devil is the outward personality who attacks really from the outside, but appeals to the weakness on the inside.

NOW, you want to have victory over your enemies. O.K. ^① If you want to have victory over your enemies, you must understand the enemy - who he is. The World is on the outside. It's not on the inside. And the only way the world can get into your life is by attacking you on the inside, which is your flesh.

The devil is also on the outside. He's not on the inside. Do you know why the Bible speaks a hundred times more about the flesh than it does the devil? And it does. Is because if you learn to deal with the flesh, you can always handle the devil. Many people are fighting the devil when the problem is not the devil but the flesh. The flesh.

Let me try to simplify it just as much as I can. The three enemies: The World, the Flesh and the Devil. The World and the Devil are on the outside of the Xtn. That's not your nature - it's on the outside. The Flesh is on inside of the Xtn. It's that inward disposition which resists the Lordship of Christ and doing the will of God. It's the old selfish nature. All right, in order for the world really to get you, it's got to appeal to this

inner weakness. If you're filled with the HS and you're walking in the power of God, the world CANNOT get you. I don't mean you won't be tempted; I don't mean you won't be persecuted, but you will not fall.

The devil will attack you from the outside and will appeal to the inside weakness. But if the flesh is under control - and HOW do you put the flesh under control? Well, First of All, you've got to be born again. What does that mean? You gotta ~~xxxxx~~ repent of your sins and you've got to invite Jesus in to be the Saviour and Lord of your life. But not only must you be born again, you must walk in the power of the HS.

Paul says in Gal. 5:16(read)'ye shall not never ' the original says. It's a double negative - bad language - good theology. God has not left us subject to the world, neither the devil. The relinquishing of our lives to Jesus and walking in the power of the HS, we overcome the world(I John 5:4) and this is the victory. God wants you to be an overcomer of the world. He wants you to be an overcomer of the devil, but it's all according to the mastery of the flesh.

If I do not have my flesh under the control of the HS, then the world will get me and the devil will get me. But If I am what God has made it possible for me to be in my own life, I can rise up and be a victorious Xtn and sing His praises and witness against the world. AND Love it and not go down. And that's the way to look at it - is to look at your own life. Are you prepared to fight the world? Are you prepared to fight the devil?

You are, if the Flesh has been subdued and you're drawing on the mighty power of God.

Thank you for coming this morning.