

GOSPEL PEARLS

Pleasing God

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Jesus said to his disciples: "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master. 'If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me. (John 15, 18-21)

Those who practice vice are loved by many and, especially, Satan as they lead themselves and others to eternal death. Those who practice virtue, even without saying a word, represent a loud call for others to abandon sin. This is way the virtuous life is hated by many, but certainly loved by God. May we often ask ourselves during each day if we are acting to please God or men.