

# Overcoming Hate

March 29th, 2015 - Gary Hutchison

## SERMON SUMMARY:

Would you rather see evil people judged... or pardoned? In Matt 24:12 Jesus predicts that love will grow cold in the last days and instead be replaced with fear and hate. We must resist this trend because God's love never grows cold and as long as we stay close to Jesus we will always be full of love.

In the Old Testament we have two prophets who encounter evil, Abraham and Jonah. Jonah lacked two things which caused his love to grow cold.

1. Jonah lacked compassion (Jonah 4:5-11).

Jesus had compassion on those who showed evil against Him (Luke 23:34). Abraham (Gen 18:23-33) had compassion for an evil city and prayed for them to be spared of God's judgment.

2. Jonah lacked a friendship with God.

Abraham was a close friend of God (Isa 41:8).

If our love is to remain strong in the last days and not to grow cold then we need to remain compassionate and remain close friends with Jesus.

## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Gary said that we get most of our perspective on the world through talk radio and the media. Why is it important to have the Bible inform our perspective on the world?

America is at war with militant Islam. Is the church at war with Islam as well? How should we view those that are blinded by Islam and wanting to do us harm?

Did Jonah have a right to hate the people of Ninevah? Why or why not? Did Abraham have this same right when thinking about the people of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Has anyone ever done something evil to you? What was your reaction? What would Jesus want you to do in that situation?

Abraham was a close friend of God. What are some ways that you can grow in your friendship with God?

What is one thing that you need to do this week in response to this message?