



But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard *it*, they mocked us and despised us and said, “What is this thing you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?”

Nehemiah 2:19

**NO
COMPROMISE**

And He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’; but you are making it a robbers’ den.”

Matthew 21:13

AS SOLOMON TELLS US, there is nothing new under the sun. The Jews were despised in 445 BC, the time of Nehemiah, and they are despised today, almost two and a half millennia later.

Every day we can see and hear this hatred expressed during the conflict between Israel and Hamas. The “Palestinians,” led by the monstrous Hamas, hate the Jews so much they are willing to sacrifice the lives of thousands of their own people—men, women, children, babies—just for the bad press it heaps upon Israel.

The left—including fellow Jews in America and around the world—does not just disagree with or condemn the *actions* of the Jews—they hate their guts; they find the people of Israel contemptible. Like Hamas, they wish the Jewish people were just wiped off the face of the earth. As God warned millennia ago, they are despised.



Christians today should take note of Israel’s response to today’s manifestation of this hate. We must learn from their example. In John 15 Jesus tells His disciples:

“If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.”

John 15:18-19

Modern Israel—at least with Benjamin Netanyahu as Prime Minister—does not care what the world thinks of them; they are going to do whatever is necessary to defend themselves. Instead of sacrificing their children to the god of public opinion, they do whatever is necessary to protect them. The nation of Israel does not care what others think. It will not compromise, just to get along, with those who hate them.

We, as Christians, need to learn that lesson; we need to stop trying to get along with the world and just stand for what we know to be right. We need to stop trying to get the world to love us. It will never love us. Get over it.

This does not mean that we are to hate the world in return, for that in itself would be compromising what we stand for; nor does it mean we are to abandon efforts to witness to the world for Christ. We want the world to love *Him*—not us. Beyond a few exceptions, however, even that will never happen.

Read the gospels. The picture of Christ Jesus as a wan, simpering, sixties-styled flower child, loving everyone around Him no matter what, is a myth manufactured by those who do not believe in Him anyway. Jesus loved and was gracious toward the vilest sinner who expressed his need of Him, but Jesus had no patience at all with those who hated Him and everything He represented.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness. So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.”

Matthew 23:27-28

When faced with those who despised Him, our Lord called a spade a spade. He did not soften His message so as not to offend. He did not compromise His principles for the sake of getting along. Neither should we.