

Hidden Behind Hyperbole

Description

Luke 14:25-30.

Is there any other word in the English language loaded with so much destructive potential as the word “hate”? We hear of the destructive impact of “hate speech,” or “hate crimes.” Clearly, hate is diametrically opposed to the gospel with its foundation in the love God has for us.

That leaves us with the question: “Why would Jesus use such a term?”

The word falls into a troubling category: hyperbole. In our passage today, it is a mark of extravagant exaggeration, not meant to be taken literally. So, why would Jesus use this term?

When Jesus used hyperbole, He was pointing to more than the action or condition represented by the definition of the word. He was pointing out subtle distinctions that could shift attention away from a deeper reality.

In this case, what stands between you and radical obedience to Jesus? How long will you insist on holding it in your possession?

Author: David Felter

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