

Seven Things God Hates

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church, Kinston NC

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September 24, 2023

Text: Proverbs 6:16-19

Purpose: We often say that “God is Love.” But we also need to realize that there are characteristics that God abhors. These character flaws are so severe that it can be said that God even hates them. These “seven deadly sins” kill our spirit and separate us from the God of love. If you are guilty of repeatedly falling into a pattern of these, realize that you need to repent and seek God’s forgiveness. A heart that is yielded to God desires the things of God.


A little boy was in a relative's wedding. As he was coming down the aisle he would take two steps, stop, and turn to the crowd (alternating between bride's side and groom's side). While facing the crowd, he would put his hands up like claws and roar loudly.



So it went, step, step, ROAR, step, step, ROAR all the way down the aisle.

As you can imagine, the crowd was near tears from laughing so hard by the time he reached the front. The little boy, however, was getting more and more distressed from all the laughing, and was near tears by the time he reached the pulpit. When asked what he was doing, the child sniffed and said, "I was being the Ring Bear."¹

A red graphic featuring a stylized cross and the text "GOD IS LOVE". The cross is formed by thick, hand-drawn red lines. The words "GOD", "IS", and "LOVE" are stacked vertically in a bold, blocky, red font to the right of the cross.



If we **CONFESS**
 our **SINS** he is
 FAITHFUL and JUST
 to forgive us
 our sins and to
CLEANSE US FROM
 all unrighteousness.
 1 JOHN 1:9

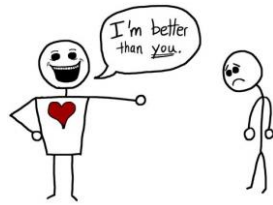
7 Things God Hates

Proverbs 6:16-19

1 A proud look

Have you ever met a person like that? You are sitting there thinking of that special someone right now! They walk

through life with their nose high in the air so they don't have to see those less fortunate.



What these people don't realize is that their haughtiness and pride is actually nauseating to others. Most people can see right through that superficiality and they actually despise those "proud looking" people. There are some in life that think that is the way you should be and they emulate that same kind of arrogance. Those social climbers alienate others and usually flock together. They all are caught up in the "being seen" and "being" the 'best' people in town. Status among peers drives them to do insane things.

But to God, this is the heart of self-willed living. A person that is so consumed with who they are, is not concerned a bit with what God thinks. It is so sad that they are blinded to God through their own selfishness and self-centeredness.

This proud look smells bad to God and he hates it. Be careful in how you direct your heart. When we are self-consumed, then we will be judged lacking by God.



The second thing that God hates is a lying tongue. I remember in elementary school realizing that there were some kids in class that could NEVER tell the truth. They would rather tell a lie than the truth. I know that on

occasion I have gotten myself in a situation where lying might make the problem seem easier. But every time I did, the truth always came out eventually. Those people that I lied to remembered and my trustworthiness in their eyes was decreased.



If you begin down a path of lying and deceit, then people will never trust you even when you are telling the truth. One of Aesop's fables included the one about the little boy crying wolf even when there wasn't one. One day, a wolf did come and no one believed him. In the end, the boy was eaten by the wolf because he reaped what he had sown.

When we have a spirit of lying in our life, we eventually do not know what the truth is anymore. Our lives become disoriented like a compass sitting on top of a magnet. We never know exactly which way truth exists. We weave so many lies that we forget what we have said and have to create another lie to cover the first.

Our friends, family, neighbors, classmates, and even God can see right through it. If we are to have a heart pleasing unto God, we need to make truthfulness a primary priority in our life.



A third thing that God hates is when someone sheds innocent blood.

So many people, including Christians, are divided on the issue of the death penalty. Those that are FOR capital punishment feel that it is a just solution to an individual that is set upon destroying others. When a person does such an awful crime, then they deserve to die. Those that are executed will never harm another person.



But there are those that are AGAINST using capital punishment. Those individuals usually quote, “*Thou shall not kill*” as the justification for never taking the life of an individual.

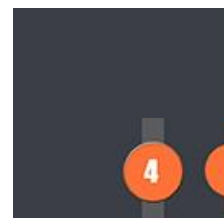
But if you read through Leviticus, you see that God does prescribe a punishment of death for various capital and moral crimes. God didn’t judge the executor; he judged the one that had committed the crime.

Whether you are for or against capital punishment, we all would agree that the innocent should be protected.

During the days of Solomon, there was a group of people that worshipped Baal. Those that worshipped this god would sacrifice their infant children into the fire to appease the gods. This activity enraged the Lord. Not only were they worshipping a false god, they were shedding innocent blood.

Our God is zealous about protecting widows, orphans, and the defenseless. There were protections placed into the law for their care. Those that defrauded or injured the defenseless received the wrath of God’s judgment.

Today, we may not throw our children into the fire, but we do turn our backs on the defenseless and in essence, allow them to wither under oppression. If it is in our power to help those that are innocent, we need to be willing to do that. When we don’t, it is as if we have shed innocent blood.



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A heart that deviseth wicked imaginations

A fourth thing that God hates is a heart that is set on doing evil. In the world today, people are doing wrong and they seem to have no remorse.



I believe the greatest scourge on our nation today is drugs. So many families have been destroyed through the use of crack cocaine. So many families are being destroyed through (Meth) methamphetamine. The flood of fentanyl across our southern border is taking more and more young people’s lives. Probably you remember a time in our society when it was only beer and alcohol. Alcohol continues to destroy families even today. But the potency of the drugs being peddled in our streets and schools are destroying the reasoning ability of people hopelessly addicted to these mind-altering drugs.

Once a person begins down a path of self-destruction, it seems their heart is fully turned away

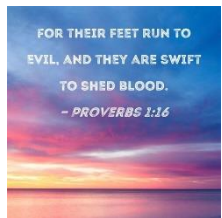


from God. The only thing that this person can do is devise ways to continue to do evil. They will steal from their children, they will steal from their neighbor, they will sell their own soul for another temporary thrill. Romans chapter one describes those as having a depraved mind. The sad part is that God removes his hand of protection from them and allows them full reign in their sin.

Woe to our nation if God removes his hand of protection.



The fifth character flaw identifies another part of our body that is engaged in evil. We have talked about the eye – the proud look. We have talked about the tongue – one that lies. We have talked about the hands – that shed innocent blood. We have mentioned a heart – which is wicked. Now we are including the feet.



This is putting action to our thoughts and plans. It is from the heart that our intents and actions are manifested. Rarely do you go where your heart hasn't already gone. As we think in our heart, so we are.

God hates those that execute those evil plans. All of us have considered doing something evil at one point in our life. The question is, "What are we doing with it?" We need to bring those evil thoughts under the control of God and allow His will to be done in our situation instead of

taking the law into our own hands. When we bring every thought captive to Christ, then we are able to live a life that is pleasing unto God.

If there is something brewing in your spirit, please turn it over to God. One day the opportunity or desire to seek revenge or resolution to your situation will appear and you will not be able to resist. It is like a runner at the beginning of a race - waiting for the opportunity to bolt out into the track. Sin that is brewing in your heart will unleash itself one day.

God hates feet that are swift in running towards evil.



A sixth thing that God hates goes directly back to the Ten Commandments. The ninth commandment was placed there to protect the innocent and punish those seeking to destroy others when they bore false witness against others.

Bearing False WITNESS

Israel's whole court system depended upon the word of at least two witnesses. If a few individuals decided to lie about someone, then that person could be punished unfairly or even executed for their alleged crimes. One witness was not enough to give a conviction.

Today we slap the hand of someone that lies in court. In some ways we make a mockery of the judicial system when

we tolerate intentional distortion of the facts. We celebrate the minor loopholes lawyers use to help wiggle their clients out of their crimes. The bedrock of any society is based upon the execution of proper justice. When justice fails, society fails.

That is why lying and bearing false witness is such an evil deed. It undermines society and eventually the entire nation. Our sins do affect others. Our actions impact our neighbors, family and friends. We may believe the lie, “I am only hurting myself.” But in the end, our sin affects others.



The last thing that God hates is when someone seeks to bring discord among those that believe in God. We recognize that discord can be rampant among unbelievers. They may not care about God. They may not care about others. They may only be concerned about themselves. Those that are that self centered, will do what ever it takes to make them look good and others look bad.



But God has a higher standard for the community of faith. Those that love God should be seeking the best in others. They do NOT need to be denigrating or berating others in a community of love and forgiveness. When we begin to attack others in the

church, we need to be careful. Those that live in glass houses do not need to throw rocks.

The world outside is looking into our houses of faith. They want what we have but are afraid to enter. When the house of faith becomes the house of fighting, the world sits back and laughs at us AND God. I have read stories of people being taken out of church in handcuffs because the hatred had swelled to such a level that a physical altercation arose.

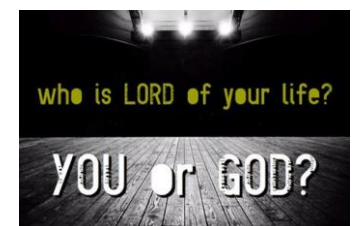


God never intended his house to be anything other than a house of prayer. He didn't intend for it to become a house of merchandise, or a house of socialization, or a point of self-righteous pride, He wanted it to be a place where sin could be forgiven. He wanted the house of faith to be a place of restoration from alienation and separation from God.

We of all people need to be careful of prideful eyes, monitor our tongue for truth, purify our hands with good works, sanctify our hearts through meditating on God's Word, shod our feet with the gospel of peace, speak a word that is true, and love one another – especially those of the household of faith.

These are not my words; they are the words of the Lord.

After a sermon like this, we should ask ourselves, “Which one of these are plaguing me?” If you study the list, they are really progressive. When we begin to exalt our self,



then we take God off the throne of our life. Maybe God has convicted you this day about one of these seven things that God hates. We do have a loving God that wants us to be restored once again. We need to resolve the question, “Who is the Lord of your life?”

We cannot pull our self up to God. Only God’s love can pull us out of the miry clay of sin. No sin is too great for God. He will forgive if you come unto Him. The righteousness of the righteous will not save you. Only by yielding our life back to God can we walk in newness of life. If you allow your pride to stand in the way and not repent, then how can God forgive?

LET US PRAY

Notes:

¹Micky’s Funnies, A Wedding Funny, August 30,2023