

Things the Lord Hates

Giving Place to the Wrath of God

Proverbs 6:16-19

The culture of the West has become absorbed with postmodern thinking. The wrath of God is looked upon by many as but an inappropriately held vestige of our superstitious, unenlightened past. Biblically, however, God is a God of wrath, a God who can hate. Shocking? Perhaps—but true!

Is it True That *God Loves Sinners, but He Hates Their Sins*?

- It is indeed true that God is love (I Jn. 4:8)
- He much prefers saving to condemning (Jn. 3:17)
- Nevertheless, He is also a God of justice (Isa. 5:16; Rom. 3:25-26)
- God's wrath is on those outside Christ (Jn. 3:36; Rom. 1:18)
- Does God hate people (Ps. 5:5; 11:5; Lev. 20:23; Hos. 9:15)?
- Sinners go to Hell, not their sins
- The short answer is, yes and no; it depends on what you mean.

The Long and Winding Road

- One single sin separates a person from the absolute holiness of God (Jas. 1:10; Rom. 3:23)
- Not all sins, however, have exactly the same consequences or are viewed in exactly the same light by God (cf. Matt. 5:21-22; 18:1-6)
- Sin tends to be “progressive” or perhaps better said “digressive” (Rom. 1:18-32), bringing about increasingly worse problems between God and man.

Seven Things the Lord Hates

- A Haughty Look/Proud Eyes (Lk. 18:9-14)
- A Lying Tongue (Acts 5:1-10)
- Hands That Shed Innocent Blood (Matt. 27:24-25)
- A Heart That Devises Wicked Plans (Mark 14:1)
- Feet That Run Rapidly to do Evil (Jn. 13:26-27)
- A False Witness Who Utters Lies (Matt. 26:59-66)
- One Who Spreads Strife Among Brethren (Jude 3-4; cf. Gen. 13:8; Jn. 17:20-23; I Cor. 1:10; Babel/Church)

Sin is a terrible thing. The Lord hates it. Moreover, while the Lord loves sinners in one sense, He can hate them in another sense. It is a personal thing. Sin disrupts, promotes injustice, brings death, causes destruction, wrecks relationships, hinders the Lord's cause, and brings shame and disgrace. There is good reason why God hates it and why His wrath is on those who practice it. Thankfully, however, Jesus has satisfied God's wrath by offering His sinless life to take the punishment we are due (Isa. 53; Rom. 3:21-26; I Pet. 2:24).

Edwin
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