

"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil;
Pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I hate"

#3. *Hating the Opposite*

REVIEW:

- Loving GOD involves loving GOD'S project: saving the world by redeeming many people and by building His church
- Authentic love for God (and His project) comes from the heart

TODAY:

- If our love for God and His project is from the heart, it demands love AND hatred

CRASH COURSE: *Loving God and Hating What He Hates*

1. Loving God requires hating the sins He hates

Exodus 18:21

"...you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who *hate* dishonest gain..."

Proverbs 8:13

"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I *hate*.

Ecclesiastes 3:8

A time to love and a time to *hate*; A time for war and a time for peace.

Amos 5:15

Hate evil, love good, And establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the LORD God of hosts may be gracious ...

2. ...but not hating the sinners He hates

Leviticus 19:17

'You shall *not hate* your fellow countryman in your heart; you may surely reprove your neighbor, but shall not incur sin because of him.

Psalms 5:5

The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You *hate* all who do iniquity.

Psalms 11:5

The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked, and the one who loves violence His soul *hates*.

Matthew 25:41

"Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;

Revelation 20:11-15

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them....and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds... And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

3. "Hating the sins but not the sinners" is not natural

Psalms 119...

I *hate* those who are double-minded, But I love Your law ... I love Your commandments

above gold, yes, above fine gold. Therefore I esteem right all Your precepts concerning everything, I **hate** every false way ... I rejoice at Your word, as one who finds great spoil. I **hate** and despise falsehood, but I love Your law.

Psalms 139:21-22

Do I not **hate** those who hate You, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? I **hate** them with the utmost hatred; They have become my enemies.

4. Loving certain sinners is commanded

Matthew 5:43-47

"You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.'

But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?"

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good... Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse... Never pay back evil for evil to anyone... Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

5. ... and "hating sin" is commended

Hebrews 1:9

"YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND **HATED** LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."

Revelation 2:6

"Yet this you do have, that you **hate** the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate."

ACTION: Learning To Hate Evil

I. Define evil as "what God hates"

Not "the fun stuff that I'm not allowed to enjoy anymore"

II. Consider the reasons for God's hatred of evil

It ruins what He loves. It wars against what He does.
It interferes with "His project."

III. Grasp the intensity of God's hatred of evil

Study "the wrath of God" and the biblical doctrines of judgment and hell and especially, propitiation: the removal of God's wrath by the death of Christ on the cross

Romans 3:23-25

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a **propitiation** in His blood through faith

IV. Act on it!

LIFE Chain: this afternoon on Richmond Street at Grosvenor.