

Holy Hatred

Introduction:

- A. We live in a world that misunderstands and misapplies hate.
 - 1. Often, we are told we should never hate anyone or anything.
 - 2. Certain crimes have been designated as hate crimes
 - 3. A popular slogan currently in use is "Hate is not a family value" in hypocritical response to parents who teach their children that certain behaviors are sinful
- B. We worship with disciples who misunderstand and misapply hate
 - 1. There are some who believe that hate is sinful in all circumstances
 - 2. There are some who believe that it is acceptable to rail endlessly about the sinners they hate.
 - 3. There are some who justify their hates while judging the hates of others
- C. Then, there's what the Bible says about hate
 - 1. We cannot truly love as we should without hating as we ought.
 - 2. We must learn to hate the right things in the right manner.
- D. How does the Bible define hate? Hate is used in three ways:
 - 1. A malicious and unjustifiable feeling toward others, whether toward the innocent or by mutual animosity.
 - a. This is condemned - 1John 2:9-11, 3:15
 - b. "He who hates his brother is called a murderer, for the sin lies in the inward disposition of which the act is only the outward expression" (Vines)
 - 2. A feeling of aversion towards evil or error
 - 3. A relative preference of one thing over another. (W.E. Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words)

I. GOD HATES IN THE SECOND TWO WAYS

- A. Though God is love (1John 4:8), He also hates. It is not contradictory to His loving character.
- B. Dislike of and antagonism toward evil
 - 1. Idolatry - Jer. 44:2-5
 - a. We must hate it too - Col. 3:5-6; 1Cor. 10:14
 - 2. Seven things - Prov. 6:16-19
- C. Preferring one thing over another
 - 1. God hated Esau in that He preferred Jacob - Rom. 9:13; Mal. 1:2-3

II. WE SHOULD HATE ERROR AND EVIL

- A. We must hate every false way - Psalm 119:104
 - 1. Does this work? "Through your precepts I get understanding, therefore, I believe that one way is as good as another"
 - 2. What we believe makes a difference - 2Thes. 2:10-12
 - 3. The church at Ephesus was commended for hating - Rev. 2:6
 - 4. Those who are not standing passionately against error cannot stand earnestly for the truth.

- B. We must hate evil - Psalm 97:10
 - 1. Sin is against God - Psalm 51:4
 - 2. We need to recognize the seriousness of that fact - Gen. 39:9
 - a. God had to watch His Son die because of sin. How do you think God feels about sin?
 - 3. Sin is degrading - Luke 15:14-16; Prov. 13:15
 - 4. Why do men not hate evil? Because they do not love God -Psalm 97:10
- C. We must prefer one over another
 - 1. A person cannot serve two masters - Matt. 6:24
 - 2. One must hate his family - Luke 14:25-26
 - a. One must love his family less than he loves Christ - Matt. 10:37
 - b. If it is a choice between pleasing God and pleasing family, we should hate our family (we should prefer God's will over theirs)
 - 3. One must hate his own life - Luke 14:25-26
 - a. We must prefer pleasing God over living in this world
John 12:25; 2Tim. 4:10
 - b. If it is a choice between life or making a living and serving God, we should hate life.
 - c. The implications of this are great. What do you prefer? What do you put first? When one puts anything first and God second, he hates God.

III. LIMITS ON HOLY HATRED

- A. We should not hate the person who is in sin but should hate the sin that has captured him and harms others.
 - 1. God discerns between the sinner and his sins - Psalm 103:10-14
- B. We should not hold on to hatred; it warps the spirit - Isa. 43:25; Ecc. 3:8
- C. We should not allow hatred to give those in opposition an opportunity to speak evil of us
 - 1. Ranting at work or in the neighborhood, going on a tear in the social media, backbiting and badmouthing others
 - 2. Psalm 37:8 - "Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret-it only causes harm."