



August 13, 2006

What God Hates Pt 3

In the list of things that God hates, Solomon includes “***An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief ...***” (Prov 6.18). Man was created in the image of the creator (Gen 1.27) and in doing so gave us the ability to think, reason and make decisions. In our world we refer to this as the power of choice. Unfortunately, the majority of mankind chooses the wrong course of action in many circumstances. Some read the story of the temptation of Eve in Gen 3 and write it off as a myth. The argument is made that God somehow placed Adam and Eve in such a position that would be tempted. Paul speaks of this and states, “***And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.***” (1 Tim 2.14). This demonstrates to us that Eve was fooled by the devices of Satan. Adam on the other hand appears to have known that their eating of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was a willful act on his part, disregarding the command of the Lord. This first sin also shows the negative impact of the decisions that we make can have. How many families have been torn apart by the wrong choices made by those who follow their own weaknesses or selfishness without weighing the impact that this will have on those around them. Solomon wrote, “***There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.***” (Prov 19.21). God has given us his word to live by and guide our lives in such a way that we will not sin against him. As we look at the things that the scriptures identify as sin we find that all of them have a damaging effect on those who engage in them. We sometimes hear people blame God for their plight when they have destroyed themselves and those around them by their actions. James states, “***Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.***” (Jas 1.13-14). Others look at the state of the world and somehow find a way to deny any faith in the creator as they fail to understand that the evil in the world is a lack of adherence to the will of God, not the failure of the Father to prevent us from making the wrong decisions and choices in life. God warned Adam and Eve that they would die as a result of violating His command (Gen 2.17). Having been warned the path was clear to make the right choice. Satan however deceived Eve, Adam joined in that sin, and as a result physical death and spiritual separation from God became a reality. The scriptures, from that point forward, show how God brought about his plan to redeem man. Paul states, “***Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned ... For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.***” (Rom 5.12,19). Christ came into the world to save the lost, to redeem us and ultimately reunite us with God. In spite of the work that God has done in bringing Christ into the world, the sacrifice of the savior, and the inspiration and preservation of the scriptures, mankind continues to argue with God and seeks to establish a righteousness that is manmade. God, as he did with Adam and Eve, has set before us the choice of accepting his word as truth and being saved from sin. Some may reason that there are too many unanswered questions and the search for “answers” in historical events leads to more confusion than certainty. In an uncertain world, we can be sure of the word of God. It has stood the test of time and endured the ages, being preserved by the Lord's providence so that we can have the home that is prepared for those who seek him. The writer of Hebrews states, “***But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.***” (Heb 11.6). Why does God hate the heart that devises evil things and the feet that run swiftly to mischief? The answer is simple. These things rob souls of a relationship with God and condemns to an eternity in Hell. Paul states, “***For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.***” (2 Cor 5.10). Still there are those who ask why. The words of Moses come to mind when these questions arise. “***The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.***” (Deut 29.29). We have been warned. TLC