



July 30, 2006

What God Hates Pt 1

Solomon states, ***“These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him...”*** (Prov 6.16). What follows is a list that sums up the root of most problems that we as humans have. The scriptures provide us with the necessary tools to uncover these errors in our lives and supplies the means to change them. Summarizing the next several verses, we find that many of these seven things have to do with a failure to exercise humility and truthfulness in our lives. To begin, Solomon writes, ***“A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood...”*** (Prov 6.17). Pride and the desire to control the lives of others for one’s personal gain is a deadly evil that invites the working of Satan into our hearts. It was a lie that brought death into the world through the temptation of Eve in the garden (Gen 3) and it was a lie that nailed Christ to the cross. We often encounter those in the world who will distort facts to suit their own needs and argue that truth is a relative concept. Christ was hated because he spoke truth and exposed the hypocrisy of the Pharisees when he confronted them. The Pharisees argued that Christ did not speak truly (John 8.12). Christ later rebuked them, stating, ***“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”*** (John 8.44). The Pharisees, and other religious leaders, had deceived themselves through the establishment of their own righteousness which was not of God (Matt 15.9). Christ told them, ***“...I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.”*** (John 8.21). The New Testament emphasizes the need to adhere to truth, not only in doctrine, but in word and deed as well. Christ stated, ***“But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.”*** (Matt 5.37). This aspect of speaking rightly at all times, and acting in accordance with that as well, is the expression of the good and honest heart which seeks to please the Lord, and not oneself. Paul wrote to the Galatians about the fact that they had departed from the Gospel after that which was not true (Gal 3.1, Gal 1.6-7). He asked them, ***“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?”*** (Gal 4.16). Deceit takes many forms as the human mind seeks to justify itself, even in the face of that which is true. The worst form of this is self deception when we seek to hold others responsible for our own shortcomings or avoid facing that in our own mind when confronted with the truth. The word of God is that which will expose these things and has the power to reveal and ultimately to correct such faults. The writer of Hebrews states, ***“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*** (Heb 4.12). Unfortunately many turn away from the word of God, rejecting it in part or in whole, in order to preserve an unrealistic view of oneself. This is the problem that the Pharisees had. Their self righteousness had grown to the point that they believed they were above the Law. ***“Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.”*** (Matt 23.1-3). Avoidance of studying the word of God may lead one to adopt an attitude of being righteous when indeed the righteousness of God has been overlooked. Paul states, ***“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”*** (Gal 6.7). Continuing in our own willful ways may rob those around us of salvation and in the end will lead us into condemnation.

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