

PROVERBS 6:16-19

HOW TO BE A BETTER HATER



FIRST BYRON CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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INTRODUCTION

"You're a hater!" It's one of the worst insults anyone can hurl at us today, isn't it? To be a hater is to be outside civil society. If you're a hater, you're a non-person. The media tells us that there's too much hate in our culture and that hate is causing so many problems.

The problem is that we don't hate enough. We don't love enough either, but the two are connected.

In Proverbs 6:16-19, Wisdom University offers a class on how to hate. Specifically

it's how to hate what God hates. That's the first part of the class. The second part is how to love what God loves.

What happens when we get this wrong, when we hate what God loves or love what God hates? We become part of what God hates, and miss out on experiencing God's love.

Let's therefore learn what God hates and loves. In the process we will become better haters and better lovers.

CONTEXT

In Proverbs 6: 6-11, Professor Solomon condemned the slothful who do nothing, In verses 12-19, he condemns the activist who does evil. He describes this wicked activist in verses 12-15, then describes God's view of them in verses 16-19.



How does God view the evil activist?



1. GOD IS A PERFECT HATER

"These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to him" (16).

This doesn't mean God only hates seven things. Seven is the number of perfection in the Bible and therefore Solomon is telling us here about God's perfect hatred. What does our perfect God perfectly hate?

God hates a proud look: Haughty or arrogant expressions. This comes first on the list because pride is the root of all other sins.

God hates a lying tongue: A digital age equivalent of this would be "lying finger-tips." God's hate is intensely focused on tiny pieces of skin and tiny muscles in our mouths and our hands that do immense harm.

God hates violent hands: "Hands that shed innocent blood" includes mistreatment of people, especially the weak.

God hates scheming hearts: Someone who spends time hatching wicked plots, making up stories about people and spreading them.

God hates fast feet: The slothful person is slow to do good. This person sprints to do evil.

God hates false witness: This refers to people who give false testimony in court or in other disputes.

God hates divisive troublemakers: they stir up conflict in a family, community or church.

APPLICATION

This is us. Apart from God's restraining and saving grace we fit this description. We are evil from the top of our heads to the top of our toes.

This is the devil: Although he presents himself much more attractively, this is the devil without his masks or disguise.

This is God. Hatred of sin is a perfection of God. God doesn't just have a mild aversion to sin. He abhors it. he is outraged by it. The ten commandments tell us about ten things God loathes. God hates sin because it damages us and separates us from him (Ps. 11:5; 5:5).

This is Christ. Jesus is the perfect lover but he is also the perfect hater. He is gentle Jesus, meek and mild. He is also jealous reformer, driving sin out of God's house with a whip. the truth. Jesus loved righteousness and hated wickedness so much that he was blessed with happiness more than anyone else (Heb. 1:9).

This is the Christian. If we love God we will hate what he hates. This doesn't mean we hate people. Rather, we hate the sins that are destroying people and dishonoring God. hate is consistent with wanting to do people good. We can hate without being hateful (Eccl.3:8)

OUR PROBLEM IS NOT THAT WE HATE TOO MUCH,
ITS THAT WE HATE TOO LITTLE



If that's what God hates, what does God love?



2. GOD IS A PERFECT LOVER

The truths in these verses are stated negatively. We're told what God hates. But, just like the ten commandments, for every negative, there's a positive. For everything forbidden, the opposite is required. For everything God hates, there's a reverse that he loves.

- **God loves a humble heart**
- **God loves a truthful tongue**
- **God loves kind hands**
- **God loves creative hearts**
- **God loves slow feet**
- **God loves true witness**
- **God loves peacemakers**

APPLICATION

This is not us. We are not born like this and we cannot simply learn this. We need a new power from outside to change us.

This is not the devil: If we have these moral defects in part, the devil has them in their entirety. This is who he is.

This is God. This is who he is in his entirety. Every part of him and every moment of him, he is like this. God loves himself perfectly and he would cease to be God if he didn't. God so hated sin that he sent his Son to die to remove it.

This is Christ. Christ embodies this perfectly. he was head to toe perfection. This is a transcript of his life. This is his righteousness that is graciously and completely transferred to us when we believe.

This is the Christian. Wherever any of these characteristics and graces appear to any degree, God is delighted. Encourage yourself that God loves even the beginnings of holiness in your life.

WE BECOME BETTER LOVERS
WHEN WE BECOME BETTER HATERS



What then do we do?



CONCLUSION



PRAYER: We worship you as the sin-hating God. Help us to honor you by hating what you hate and loving what you love.

FURTHER STUDY

Online Articles

- [Does God hate anyone?](#) by Erik Lutz Ham
- [God hates evil](#)
- [The Hatred of God in the Psalms of David](#) by Paul Carter
- [What God hates](#) by Tim Challies
- [Are Christians intolerant haters?](#) by Michael Kruger
- [The Case for Hate](#) by David Murray
- [How to be a Christian hater](#) by David Murray

Books

- [The Holiness of God](#) by R. C. Sproul
- [Christians are hate-filled hypocrites and other lies you've been told](#) by Bradley Wright

Discussion Questions

1. How do the "seven things God hates" change your view of the Ten Commandments?
2. Go through the list of seven things God hates and give practical examples of what each looks like in modern life.
3. Do the same with the seven things God loves.
4. What did this sermon teach you about God, Christ, heaven, hell, yourself, the Gospel?
5. Explain how you can hate sin but love sinners at the same time.
6. How do these verses increase our assurance of God's love?

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HOW TO BE A BETTER HATER



We don't hate enough

Biblical answer?



God is a perfect hater

- A proud look
- Lying tongue
- Violent hands
- Scheming hearts
- Fast feet
- A false witness
- Divisive trouble makers

WE DON'T HATE TOO MUCH,
WE HATE TOO LITTLE.

What does God love?



Pursue perfection by hating
what God hates and
loving what God loves.



God is a perfect lover

- Humble heart
- Truthful tongue
- Kind hands
- Creative hearts
- Slow feet
- True witness
- Peacemakers

WE BECOME BETTER LOVERS
WHEN WE BECOME BETTER HATERS

Action?

WE WORSHIP YOU AS THE SIN-HATING GOD.
HELP US TO HONOR YOU BY
HATING WHAT YOU HATE
AND LOVING WHAT YOU LOVE.



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GOD. GOD DOESN'T JUST HAVE A MILD
AVERSION TO SIN. HE ABHORS IT. HE IS
OUTRAGED BY IT. THE TEN
COMMANDMENTS TELL US ABOUT TEN
THINGS GOD LOATHES. GOD HATES SIN
BECAUSE IT DAMAGES US AND
SEPARATES US FROM HIM