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A.M.

A Divine Hatred

Scripture Lesson: - Proverbs 6: 16 - 23.

Text: - Proverbs 6: 16 - 19. "These six things does the Lord hate, yea seven are an abomination unto him. A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that are swift, in running to mischief, a false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among the brethren."

Introduction: - One of the factors contributing to juvenile crime is that we in the churches have failed to remind this generation that while God is love, He also has the capacity to hate. He hates sin, and will judge sin with the fierceness of His wrath. It is His love for man, His compassion for the race, that prompts God to hate sin with such vengeance. He gave his only Son, that we might be saved from sin. "God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have eternal life."

What sin does God hate? God hates a proud look.

The Word of God, says, "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." Pro. 16: 18  
"A man's pride shall bring him low." (Prov. 29: 23)

Daniel says "Those that walk in pride He is able to abase." (Dan. 4: 37). In Jeremiah we read, "Behold I am against thee, O thou most proud!" (Jer. 50: 3).  
It was pride that caused the fall of Lucifer from

heaven to become Satan, the devil. It was pride that led Saul down to a shameful and untimely death. It was pride that caused Peter to deny his Lord and join the enemies of Christ. It is pride that keeps hundreds away from Christ. Many say, "What will my friends say? What will my family think? Will my reputation be affected if I become a Christian? Jesus has a word or two to say when pride stands in the way. "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased, and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." The entrance to the kingdom of heaven means that you must come in humility. No man will ever be in heaven that has not humbled himself at the foot of the cross of Christ. Before any man can get to heaven, he must stoop at the foot of the cross and acknowledge that he is a sinner, and that he needs the grace of God through Jesus Christ. No man can come proudly to the Savior. You cannot come proudly to the kingdom of God with pride in your heart and a proud look upon your face. No man can come unless he comes in confession, humility and repentance of his sin.

The next thing that God hates is a lying tongue.

Where did we learn to lie? Isn't it strange that children lie instinctively without being taught?

The sins of fraud, embezzlement, slander, libel and breach of promise are the products of a lying heart. Where did this deceit come from? Jesus gave us the answer when He said to those who lived and spoke a lie in his day. "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lust of your father ye will do" (John 8:44). He was a liar from the beginning.

Human nature was warped and twisted in the fall of Adam. Jesus Christ, who is the truth, came saying, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32). The Scriptures tell us that God hates every form of lying. Lying is anything that is contrary to the naked truth. The Scriptures tell us that Satan is a liar and that no liar shall have any part in the kingdom of heaven. (Rom. 8:23).

### III.

The Word of God says that God hates a hand that sheds innocent blood. The sixth commandment says, "Thou shalt not kill." Psychologists tell us that the seed of murder lurks in every heart, even of the most respected persons. The Word of God says, "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him!" (I John 3:15). Murder can be committed in many ways. You can murder your wife, your children, and your friends by the poisonous venom of hatred and bitterness.

### IV.

In the next place the Word of God says that God hates a heart that deviseth evil imaginations. The thought of evil is sown in the mind before it is reaped in the field of action. It was the evil imaginations of the people of Noah's day that prompted God to judge the world. We read, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." And God said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, ... for it repenteth me that I made

them! (Gen 6:5,7).

We are living in a day when men's imaginations are evil in the sight of God. God hates this. You dreamers, you people that dream evil things and have lust in your hearts, no man, with evil imaginations can inherit the kingdom of God. God hates sin; God hates evil imaginations. Sin leads to habits; habits lead to bondage and bondage leads to death. "The wages of sin is death" (Rom.6:23).

#### V.II

God hates the feet that are swift in running to mischief. Evil thoughts and imagination if nourished and fed, will lead to actual sin. There are people in every community who openly and flagrantly break God's law. They boast that they are not hypocrites and they make no pretense of being good, but this does not excuse them for their wickedness. God says that he hates feet that are swift in running to mischief.

I have a book in my study of the life and works of Paul Lawrence Dunbar. He was a negro poet. In this book is the following. " This is the debt I pay just for one riotous day: years of regret and grief, sorrow without relief. Slight was the thing I bought; small was the debt, I thought; poor was the loan at best.. Oh, but the interest!"

Yes, the interest one pays for his sin.

VI.  
The Scriptures say that God hates a man that sows discord among the brethren. God hates discord and strongly denounces those who sow strife. Augustine had a motto printed on the wall of his dining

dining room, "He that speaks an evil word of an absent man or woman is not welcome at this table." Would it not be a good thing to have such a motto in the dining room of every American home? "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice", says the Word of God. (Eph. 4:31). Keep thy tongue from evil and thy lips from speaking guile. (Psa: 34:13)

There is a story about a woman who came to her minister with a troubled conscience. The minister knew her as a trouble maker, she had spoken ill of almost every person in the town. "How can I make amends," she pleaded tearfully? "If you want to make peace with your own conscience, take a bag of feathers and drop one on the porch of each one you have slandered. When she had done so, she came back to her minister and said, "Is that all?" "No", said the minister, "You must go and gather them all up and bring them to me." After a long time, the woman returned without a single feather. "The wind has blown them all away," she said. "My good woman," said the minister, "So it is with gossip. Unkind words are easily said, but you can never take them back.

Conclusion:- What can we do about these things which are in our hearts? You can do nothing at all, but if you give God a chance, he can do something about it. "Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom: 12: 2). If you will have Jesus Christ come into your life, he can take your tongue and cause it to speak only good things about your neighbor. If Christ comes into your heart, he will change yo ur

nature until you will love instead of hate. Christ through his death upon the cross purchased for you a new life. "I am come that they may have life" (John 10:10) You can be born again. "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9). I have known many people whose lives had been transformed. It has worked in my life. It will work in yours. The same power of Christ will transform your life.

But you say that you are guilty of the things I have mentioned today. Yes, thousands of people are guilty. The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. 3:23). But no matter how guilty you may be, Christ died on the cross for your sins. You can receive Christ. He will forgive every sin that you have ever committed and will GIVE to you a dynamic for living; power to overcome temptations of life and will give you a new strength. But, you must first confess your past sins and then receive Christ into your life. Will you do it this minute? Just now?

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