



Dealing with  
HATRED

A TEACHING OUTLINE

Love  
YOUR  
ENEMIES  
Bless  
THEM THAT  
CURSE YOU

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## Dealing with hatred

### Bible Examples of hatred:

#### Cain hated Esau

##### Genesis 4:8

And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

Adam and Eve's disobedience brought sin into the human race. They may have thought their sin—eating a piece of fruit—wasn't very bad, but notice how quickly their sinful nature developed in their children.

Simple disobedience quickly degenerated into outright murder. Adam and Eve acted only against God, but Cain acted against both God and other people.

A small sin has a way of growing out of control. Let God help you with your sins before they turn into tragedies.

#### Haman hated Mordeciah

##### Esther 3:5-6

And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath. [6] And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

Haman enjoyed the power and prestige of his position, and he was enraged when Mordecai did not respond with the expected reverential bow.

Haman's anger was not directed just toward Mordecai, but toward what Mordecai stood for—the Jews' dedication to God as the only authority worthy of reverence.

Haman's attitude was prejudiced: He hated a group of people because of a difference in belief or culture. Prejudice grows out of personal pride—considering oneself better than others. In the end, Haman was punished for his arrogant attitude (7:9, 10). God will harshly judge those who are prejudiced or whose pride causes them to look down on others.

## **Esau hated Jacob**

### **Genesis 27:41**

**And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, the days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.**

Esau was so angry at Jacob that he failed to see his own wrong in giving away the birthright in the first place. Jealous anger blinds us from seeing the benefits we have and makes us dwell on what we don't have.

When Esau lost the valuable family blessing, his future suddenly changed. Reacting in anger, he decided to kill Jacob. When you lose something of great value, or if others conspire against you and succeed, anger is the first and most natural reaction.

### **You can control your feelings by:**

- (1) Recognizing your reaction for what it is,
- (2) Praying for strength, and
- (3) Asking God for help to see the opportunities that even your bad situation may provide.

## **Hatred stirs up strife.**

### **Proverbs 10:12**

Hatred stirs up strife: but love covers all sins.

By hating another person you may become a liar or a fool. If you try to conceal your hatred, you end up lying. If you slander the other person and are proven wrong, you are a fool. The only way out is to admit your hateful feelings to God. Ask him to change your heart, to help you love instead of hate.

## **Hating others is a work of the flesh.**

### **Galatians 5:19-20**

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, [20] Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

We all have evil desires, and we can't ignore them. In order for us to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance, we must deal with them decisively (crucify them—5:24).

These desires include obvious sins, such as sexual immorality and demonic activities. They also include less obvious sins, such as hostility, jealousy, and selfish ambition.

## **Those who hate walk in darkness.**

### **1 John 2:9-11**

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. [10] He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. [11] But he that hates his brother is in darkness, and walks in darkness, and knows not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

Does this mean that if you dislike someone you aren't a Christian? These verses are not talking about disliking a disagreeable Christian Brother or sister.

There will always be people we will not like as well as others. John's words focus on the attitude that causes us to ignore or despise others, to treat them as irritants, competitors, or enemies.

Christian love is not a feeling but a choice. We can choose to be concerned with people's well-being and treat them with respect, whether or not we feel affection toward them. If we choose to love others, God will help us express our love.

### **Hatred is judged as murder.**

#### **1 John 3:15**

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

John echoes Jesus' teaching that whoever hates another person is a murderer at heart (Matthew 5:21, 22). Christianity is a religion of the heart; outward compliance alone is not enough. Bitterness against someone who has wronged you is an evil cancer within you and will eventually destroy you. Don't let a "poisonous root of bitterness" (Hebrews 12:15) grow in you or your church.

### **Those filled with unrighteousness**

#### **Romans 1:29-31**

Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, [30] Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, [31] Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

Don't underestimate the power of Satan to tempt you, or the potential for serious harm if you continue to yield to these temptations. Surrender yourself to God, asking him to show you the way out of sin and into the light of his freedom and his love. Prayer, Bible study, and loving support of Christians in a Bible-believing church can help you to gain strength to resist these powerful temptations.

## **Hatred of discipline**

### **Psalm 50:17**

*Seeing you hate instruction, and cast my words behind thee.*

Some people glibly recite God's laws but are filled with deceit and evil. They claim his promises but refuse to obey him. This is sin, and God will judge people for it. We, too, are hypocrites when we are not what we claim to be. To let this inconsistency remain shows that we are not true followers of God.

## **Those who hate the light**

### **John 3:20**

*For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd.*

Many people don't want their lives exposed to God's light because they are afraid of what will be revealed. They don't want to be changed.

Don't be surprised when these same people are threatened by your desire to obey God and do what is right, because they are afraid that the light in you may expose some of the darkness in their lives.

Rather than giving in to discouragement, keep praying that they will come to see how much better it is to live in light than in darkness.

**Your will be hated because of the name of Jesus.**

**Matthew 10:22**

And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Enduring to the end is not a way to be saved but the evidence that a person is really committed to Jesus. Persistence is not a means to earn salvation; it is the by-product of a truly devoted life.

**When hated by others, you will be blessed by God.**

**Luke 6:22**

Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

These verses are called the *Beatitudes*, from the Latin word meaning "blessing." They describe what it means to be Christ's follower, give standards of conduct, and contrast Kingdom values with worldly values, showing what Christ's followers can expect from the world and what God will give them.

In addition, they contrast fake piety with true humility. They also show how Old Testament expectations are fulfilled in God's Kingdom.

**Do good to those who hate you.**

**Luke 6:27-28**

But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, [28] Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

The Jews despised the Romans because they oppressed God's people, but Jesus told the people to love these enemies. Such words turned many away from Christ. Jesus wasn't talking about having affection for enemies; he was talking about an act of the will.

You can't "fall into" this kind of love—it takes conscious effort. Loving our enemies means acting in their best interests. We can pray for them, and we can think of ways to help them.

Jesus loves the whole world, even though the world is in rebellion against God. Jesus asks us to follow his example by loving our enemies. Grant your enemies the same respect and rights as you desire for yourself.

**God hates those who love violence.**

### **Psalm 11:5**

The Lord tries the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

God does not shield believers from difficult circumstances, but he examines (or tests) both the righteous and the wicked. For some, God's tests become a refining fire, while for others they become an incinerator for destruction. Don't ignore or defy the tests and challenges that come your way. Use them as opportunities for you to grow.

**Got hates divorce.**

### **Malachi 2:16**

For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covers violence with his garment, saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit that ye deal not treacherously.

"Guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth" means to have the same commitment to marriage that God has to his promises for his people. Our passion should be reserved exclusively for our spouse.

### **Believers should hate evil.**

#### **Psalm 97:10**

Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserves the souls of his saints; he delivers them out of the hand of the wicked.

A sincere purpose to please God will result in an alignment of your desires with God's desires. You will love what God loves and hate what God hates. If you love the Lord, you will hate evil.

If you do not despise the actions of people who take advantage of others, if you admire people who only look out for themselves, or if you envy those who get ahead using any means to accomplish their ends, then your primary desire in life is not to please God. Learn to love God's ways and hate evil in every form.

### **Love Righteousness, hate evil.**

#### **Psalm 45:7**

Thou lovest righteousness, and hate wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

God's love for believers and their love for him and all humanity brings forth the oil of Gladness.

## **An invitation is given to open your heart's door to Jesus**

### **Rev. 3:20**

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

### **To ask Jesus to come into your heart please pray this Prayer:**

Dear Lord Jesus, I believe you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. I ask you to forgive me of my sins and coming into my heart. I accept you as savior and will follow you as Lord. Amen.

#### **References:**

Holy Bible: King James Translation

The New Living Bible

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