

The Absence of Hatred Toward Others

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Mike Miller

Straight Paths Bible Church

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

1 John 3:10-12 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

- I. From the beginning the message from God has been to love your brother.
 - A. This word brother includes neighbor; it doesn't just mean a brother according to the flesh.
 - B. Hatred for acquaintances is never justified or right in God's sight.
 - 1. How much more in the case of a Christian brother!
 - C. This is how the children of God and the children of the devil are manifested, uncovered, and put on display – marking the contrast between how they treat and feel toward other people.
 - D. In our selfish and carnal state before we are saved we are all “hateful and hating one another.”

Titus 3:4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,

- II. Not as Cain, is the example we are given.
 - A. He slew his brother — the word means to butcher, to slaughter, as an animal.
 - 1. Without mercy or consideration for his family, his offspring, or anything.
 - B. He destroyed his brother.
 - 1. This includes separating him from others, breaking his fellowship with others.
 - 2. Doing his best to make it look as if his brother was the one doing wrong.
 - 3. Doing his best to make everyone think that God's blessing was NOT on Abel.
 - C. He meant to silence him forever.
- III. The reason he did all this was that his own works were evil and his brother's righteous.
 - A. Cain was of that wicked one — the devil.
 - 1. The devil was his master — God was not.
 - 2. The devil had tempted him, as he had his parents, and Cain followed on after him, without repenting.

- IV. To hate your brother is to be a murderer in God's sight.

1 John 3:14-15 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

- A. Hate — To dislike greatly; to have a great aversion to.

- B. You don't have to physically murder someone to be guilty of the same thing Cain was guilty of.

Murderer — A person who in possession of his reason, unlawfully kills a human being with premeditated malice.

1. Anything that tends to their destruction, or to bringing an end to their influence and reputation.
 2. Tale bearing, gossip, slander – all have the same motive as murder. Which is hatred.
 3. Manipulating circumstances to make him look bad, or lowering the opinion of others toward him.
 4. Depriving him of opportunities to exercise his faith and works for God. (black-balling someone)
- C. One who does such things is a murderer, according to these Scriptures.
D. Hatred precedes violence — it is the desire to do violence to someone.

Gen 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.

Gen 37:4 And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

2 Sam 13:22 And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

2 Chr 18:7 And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, by whom we may inquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he never prophesied good unto me, but always evil: the same is Micaiah the son of Imla. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so.

Psa 41:7 All that hate me whisper together against me: against me do they devise my hurt.

Prov 10:12 Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.

- E. Hatred is hard to hide.

Proverbs 26:24-26 He that hateth dissembleth (hide or disguise) with his lips, and layeth up deceit within him; When he speaketh fair, believe him not: for there are seven abominations in his heart. Whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be shewed before the whole congregation.

- F. Hatred is a work of the flesh. Gal. 5:20

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

- G. Hatred is a pretty good sign that you are unconverted.

- H. The absence of it in your character is one of the unfailing marks of a true child of God.

1. The honest and true desire to live so as not to hurt anyone.