



Is it Ever Okay to Hate?

Matthew 5:43-44: (NASB) ⁴³*You have heard that it was said; you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.* ⁴⁴*But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.*



Hate is an immensely strong emotion. It can ruin relationships, perpetuate untruths, create rage and feed the fire of war. It is because of hate that much of the good in this world is not recognized, and it is because of hate that many in this world are truly unhappy. Did God create hate? Yes, He did! So, if God created hate, when is it a godly time for us to hate?

So, what does it mean to hate?

hate: (noun)

1a: intense hostility and aversion usually deriving from fear, anger, or sense of injury
b: extreme dislike or antipathy

Related words: cattiness, despite, spitefulness, hatefulness, invidiousness, malevolence, malice, maliciousness, malignancy, malignity, meanness, spite, spitefulness; aversion, disgust, distaste, horror, odium, repugnance, repulsion, revulsion; animosity, antagonism, antipathy, bitterness, contempt, disdain, enmity, grudge, hostility, jealousy, pique, resentment, scorn; bile, jaundice, rancor, spleen, venom, virulence, vitriol



To truly grasp hate in its proper context, let's look at what we know of what the Almighty God hates. First, we need to define a word that often describes evil in the sight of God:

Abomination: Strong's #8441 tow'ebah (to-ay-baw'); something disgusting (morally), i.e. (as noun) abhorrence; especially idolatry or (concretely) an idol

Here are some things God "hates:"

Proverbs 11:20: (KJV) *They that are of a froward heart (to turn aside, to be perverse, stubbornly disobedient) are an **abomination** <8441> to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.*

Deuteronomy 25:13-16: (NASB) ¹³*You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a large and a small.* ¹⁴*You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small.* ¹⁵*You shall have a full and just weight; you shall have a full and just measure, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you. (Have honest dealings with each other)* ¹⁶*For everyone who does these things, everyone who acts unjustly is an **abomination** <8441> to the LORD your God.*

Proverbs 15:8: (KJV) *The sacrifice of the wicked is an **abomination** <8441> to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is His delight.*

What the wicked sacrifice, how they sacrifice and to whom is perverse. Only God deserves that kind of homage and everything else is idolatry. The first commandment was, *Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.*

Proverbs 15:9: (KJV) *The way of the wicked is an **abomination** <8441> unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.*



Proverbs 15:26: (KJV) *The thoughts of the wicked are an **abomination** <8441> to the LORD: but the words of the pure are pleasant words.*

Our very thoughts can be an offense to God!

Proverbs 17:15: (KJV) *He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just; even they both are an **abomination** <8441> to the LORD.*

The Pharisees are an example of people who condemned the just.

We know God hates perversity, cheating, idolatry, wicked paths, wicked thoughts and those who stand up for these things. That sure seems like a lot of hate! We need to understand and appreciate what, who and why God hates.

What does God do with all those things He hates?

Based on the following texts, God OBVIOUSLY does NOT hate SINNERS...

Luke 2:14: (NKJV) *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!*

Notice this does NOT say, *goodwill to just the few people who I like because they like Me.* The purpose of Jesus coming was to bring peace for ALL as a ransom for the sin of Adam.

Ezekiel 33:11: (NKJV) *Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die O house of Israel?*

The focus here was on Israel in its sinful state. The principle applies, however, in a bigger picture to all humanity. God loves humanity but hates the wickedness in which we perpetuate our generational experiences. He wants obedience from His creation!

2 Corinthians 5:18-19: (NKJV) ¹⁸*Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

God's plan is one of reconciliation, bringing all of those on the wrong side back to the right side. What foresight! God is not a reactive being like us - He is bigger than that and has an eternal plan that shows His love for humanity, expressed through His hate being put in the right place. How do we put hate "in the right place?"

2 Peter 3:9: (NKJV) *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

God is patient in the unfolding of His plan because He wants all to repent. Therefore, God's "hatred" is for a purpose: identifying wrong and darkness so that right and light will one day be fully and unequivocally embraced!



Observations from God's own example regarding hate:

- Hate executed *properly* can actually be a benefit.
- Hate executed *improperly* is a destructive tidal wave of senseless and godless thoughts and actions!

We will focus on five points of applying hate to the right things and for the right reasons:

1. Hate properly awakened **SHOULD** have its foundation in principle, not in prejudice.

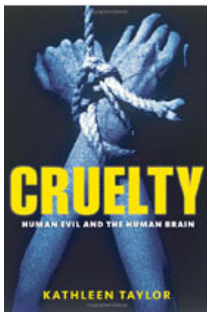
Check your emotion - if you are acting based on principle, you will generally be far less emotional. When we act based on prejudice, our blood pressure goes up and we *feel* more than we *think*.



Proverbs 8:13: (NRSV) *The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.*

This is perhaps the most important principle in this whole discussion as it sets our table for the right things. If we are to thrive on a meal of loving God, there is no room for evil - anywhere!

 **Ingroups, Outgroups and Politicians, *Cruelty* (book), Kathleen Taylor**



- *So, we have these multiple ingroups and multiple identities. And other people who share those, we tend to accept and people who don't, we tend to dismiss. However if you get, for example, a clever ideologue who can come along as a politician and insert a wedge between you and your outgroup, then you can start developing extreme hostility between those groups and that can be very useful politically, but it can be very damaging to relations between those groups. And what happens when you get that kind of spiraling realization? What happens is that the people in the ingroup start viewing the people in the outgroup differently.*

This is a classic example of what happens when imperfect beings manipulate hate.

Amos 5:14-15: (ASV) ¹⁴*Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live; and so Jehovah, the God of hosts, will be with you, as ye say.* ¹⁵**Hate the evil, and love the good**, and establish justice in the gate: it may be that Jehovah, the God of hosts, will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

The intentional seeking of good must *dominate* our lives. This helps us to properly hate the evil and not the individual person.

Hebrews 1:8-9: (NRSV) ⁸*But of the Son he says, Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.* ⁹*You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.*

This is our template. Jesus loved righteousness and hated iniquity - he was different and set the standard for us. Hating now has a proper form and a



purpose - to keep us in tune with loving righteousness! Loving righteousness identifies hating iniquity.

So, are we ever supposed to “hate” other people?

Let's take a further look at what happens when our “groups” engage in hate:

 **Less than people, *Cruelty (book), Kathleen Taylor,***

- It's almost as if they are processing the outgroup member as if they are less human. If you look at the language that people use about hostile outgroup members, they talk about them metaphorically as beasts or animals; they talk about them metaphorically as cancers or diseases, infections, swarms, insects - you get a whole set of language that is very, very hostile that is depicting these people. You also, if you ask someone to describe the outgroup member in terms of their emotional life, you get a much more simple description so everything dumbs down. So, it's almost as if they are learning to see people as less than normal people.*

How subtle is the weapon of hate, especially when our peers provoke it!

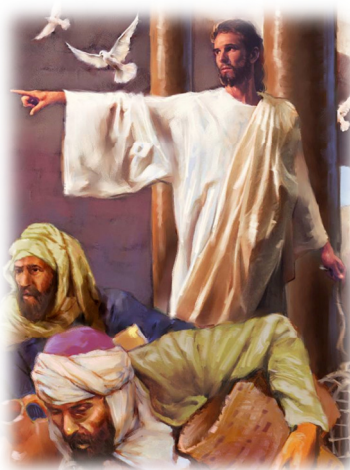
2. Hate properly acknowledged SHOULD be a response, not a reaction.



A caller from Connecticut suggests: Don't hold a grudge. It is challenging in our day for the Christian to see the gross injustice in our world and it reminds me of Habakkuk 1 and Revelation 6 asking, “How long, O Lord, before You bring justice in this world?” That is a test of our faith. Romans 12:19: *Vengeance is mine, sayeth the Lord. We wait for His judgments to be in the earth and for Him to execute justice perfectly in His own time and method.*

Not holding a grudge lifts us out of the anger that hate provokes. When something is malicious and evil, we should hate it! How do we do that without getting sucked in by the hate? It could be just as bad to hold it in without responding. Bottling it up can increase emotions.

How did Jesus show his hate for unrighteousness?



The cleansing of the Temple:

John 2:12-18: (KJV) ¹²After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days. ¹³And the Jews' Passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, ¹⁴And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: ¹⁵And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers money, and overthrew the tables; ¹⁶And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. ¹⁷And his disciples remembered that it was written, the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. ¹⁸Then answered the Jews and said unto him, what sign showest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?

Jesus was not happy with thievery in the Temple and not afraid to show it. But was this an emotional outburst or a righteous action?



- Jesus drove out the animals - easily recovered. He understood their value.
- Jesus did not loose the doves - not easily recovered. If he had let the doves go, the poor would not have a sacrifice. Also, the merchants who had paid for those doves would have suffered a loss.
- Jesus did not seek to do harm or perpetuate evil, he just stopped the extortion.

There was no emotional lack of control - just a hard lesson in righteousness! That is the template for us to have hate as a response and not a reaction.

"I imagine one of the reasons people cling to their hates so stubbornly is because they sense, once hate is gone, they will be forced to deal with pain." - James Baldwin

Because we are not Jesus, we must tread this path carefully:

Psalms 26:1-5: (NRSV) ¹Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering. ²Prove me, O LORD, and try me; **test my heart and mind.** ³For your steadfast love is before my eyes and I walk in faithfulness to you.

Our prayer should be for God to look upon our integrity and for us to trust in righteousness...

⁴I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites; ⁵I hate the company of the evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

...and to look upon all of the actions of our lives to see if we are in fact in a godly manner! Then we can begin to apply a righteous reaction to the evil that we encounter, but we have to design the response. For most of us, the proper response to proper hatred is not natural. We have to build it in our lives based on scriptural principle.

Psalms 139:20-24: (NRSV) ²⁰those who speak of you maliciously, and lift themselves up against you for evil! ²¹Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? ²²I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. ²³Search me, O God, and know my heart; **test me** and know my thoughts. ²⁴See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

This is a test for our hatred of iniquity to make sure it is based on a love of righteousness and not just on anger against another human being. Love the sinner but hate the sin. Because Satan is the ruler of this world, our lives are built around the idea that hatred can fester easily. We must rise above the natural order of things so our love for righteousness spurs our hatred for iniquity but never spurs us to hate the individuals that may be different in another group. Jesus died for them just as he died for you.

3. Hate properly assigned SHOULD be born out of conviction, not out of emotion.



Disgust and cleansing, *Cruelty* (book), Kathleen Taylor

- *“Otherization” seems to happen in all cases of extreme cruelty. Where as you might think that the emotions that are driving that are primarily anger and fear, what seems to have emerged is the primary emotion - perhaps certainly one of the big ones - is disgust. You have to see your enemy as something revolting in order to be driven to commit the extreme acts of cruelty. And that’s because what you are doing is you are basically seeing yourself as engaged in a cleaning function. You are seeing yourself as a perpetrator, somebody who’s doing a hygienic cleaning up - a dirty task, but a necessary one because it’s gonna help, it’s gonna cure, it’s gonna heal overall and that is the dangerous, horrible justification behind most of these acts of extreme cruelty. For example, the classic example is the Holocaust.*

We have all heard the phrase “ethnic cleansing.” That is what she is talking about. You must see your enemy as being revolting. They have lost their humanity in your eyes so you can justify their annihilation. This improper hatred is like a contagious poison.



According to Professor Rafi Vago, (Senior Lecturer and Senior Researcher at Tel Aviv University (Israel) and presenter at The International School for Holocaust Studies, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem) there are four basic steps that need to happen in order for an atrocity like the Holocaust to take place:

1. Decide that someone else is the “other,” for any type of otherness.
2. Society decides to build a legal framework - what the “others” can and cannot do.
3. They cannot live among you - segregate them physically.
4. When they are separate, exterminate them.

This is Satan’s prescription for hatred!



The Hall of Names at Yad Vashem (Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem) is the Jewish people’s memorial to each and every Jew who perished in the Holocaust - a place where they may be commemorated for generations to come.

The main circular hall houses the extensive collection of “Pages of Testimony” - short biographies of each Holocaust victim. Over two million Pages are stored in the circular repository around the outer edge of the Hall, with room for six million in all. The ceiling of the Hall is composed of a ten-meter high cone reaching skywards, displaying 600 photographs and fragments of Pages of Testimony. This exhibit represents a fraction of the murdered six million men, women and children from the diverse Jewish world destroyed by the Nazis and their accomplices.



"Even if heaven was the paper and earth was the ink, it would still not be large enough to tell of what happened here." – Holocaust victim, quoted in the "Epilogue" display at Yad Vashem

Matthew 26:59-68: (NASB) ⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain **false testimony** against Jesus, so that they might put him to death. ⁶⁰They did not find any, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward, ⁶¹and said, this man stated; I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it in three days.

This shows us the blindness of unrighteous hatred...

⁶²The high priest stood up and said to him, do you not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against you? ⁶³But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest said to him, I adjure you by the living God, that you tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God.

Blind hate knows only how to escalate its own passion...

⁶⁴Jesus said to him, you have said it yourself; nevertheless I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven. ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said he has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, you have now heard the blasphemy; ⁶⁶what do you think?

Once our blind hate finds its mark, it explodes upon those around us!

They answered, he deserves death! ⁶⁷Then they spat in his face and beat him with their fists; and others slapped him, ⁶⁸and said, prophesy to us, you Christ; who is the one who hit you?

Blind hate exploded = cruelty, mockery, disgust and murder!

This is a dramatic and sobering example of what can happen in our lives. We may not physically murder someone, but we can murder their character by slandering them. God hates that!

From the deepest desires often comes the deadliest hate. - Socrates

How do we keep our emotions in check when it comes to such dramatic circumstances?

Matthew 5:43-46: (NKJV) ⁴³You have heard that it was said, you shall love your neighbor (this is a Scripture) and hate your enemy (this last part was a Jewish tradition added by the Pharisees!) ⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

Hate must not emanate from us because God does not emanate hate. He hates evil, but He cares for all.

We are to rise above our circumstances and emotions and love our enemies. Our actions towards them should not be reactions; but instead they should be actions based in love, kindness and mercy. We stand strong for what is right and against what is wrong. We do not need to use the emotion of hatred against another to stand against what is wrong. We need a strength of conviction of righteousness and a fearless courage.

Act out of conviction - do not be convicted by your actions!



1 Thessalonians 5:14-20: (NASB) ¹⁴We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. ¹⁶Rejoice always; ¹⁷pray without ceasing; ¹⁸in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit; ²⁰do not despise prophetic utterances.

How do we combat fear, anger and disgust?

4. Hate properly acted upon SHOULD be right, just, wise and loving; not heretical, hypocritical, half-baked or hurtful.



Fear, anger and disgust, *Cruelty (book)*, Kathleen Taylor

- Look at the language the SS used. Look at the language that leading Nazis used about what they were doing and you find that metaphor of hygiene, of surgery, of cleansing coming to the fore again and again. And that is what is so terrifying about extreme cruelty, because fear is something that arises and then when there's no threat, it dissipates. Anger is something that responds to a social offense, but if there's no offense, it's hard to sustain the anger. But disgust - it doesn't matter what the victim does because how do you cleanse yourself of perceived pollution? It's really hard to do, so whatever the victim can do; if you are angry with someone they can apologize, if you are afraid of someone they can reassure you, but if you're disgusted by them, how do they deal with that? So, disgust is a really powerful and dangerous mechanism.



A caller from Tennessee suggests a quote by Elie Wiesel: "The opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference." (Note, the quote continues by saying: "...The opposite of art is not ugliness, it is indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it is indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it is indifference.") Ultimately love ought to be passionate. The motive of the heart ought to be more concerned for the other person. The only hatred of a Christian ought to be rooted in the person and practices of Satan...the only hatred God has is for hatred and sin.

Let's look at the stoning of Stephen.

Fear:

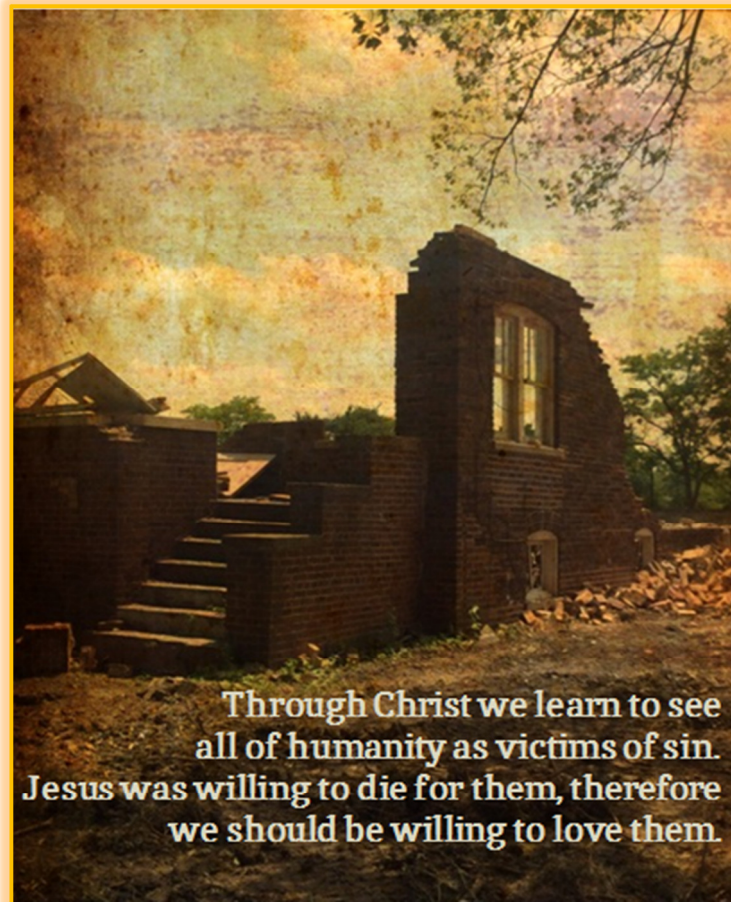
Acts 6:9-11: (NASB) ⁹But some men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and argued with Stephen. ¹⁰But they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. ¹¹Then they secretly induced men to say, we have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.

Anger: Notice how they recruited the masses to their "group"!

Acts 6:12-15: (NASB) ¹²And they stirred up the people, the elders and the scribes, and they came up to him and dragged him away and brought him before the Council. ¹³They put forward false witnesses who said, This man incessantly speaks against this holy place and the Law; ¹⁴for we have heard him say that this Nazarene, Jesus, will destroy this place and alter the customs which Moses handed down to us. ¹⁵And fixing their gaze on him, all who were sitting in the Council saw his face like the face of an angel.



A caller from Connecticut suggests Psalms 139:23: *Search me, O God and know my heart and see if there is any wicked way in me.* When we hate or dislike another, it mirrors something in ourselves that we fear or dislike. But when we feel hatred, it is an opportunity to ask God for healing. Proverbs 10:12: *Hatred stirs up strife but love covers all offenses.* There is no "other" in Christ. We are not allowed to judge as God; we are commanded to love as Jesus. 1 John 4:20: *Those who say I love God and hate their brother are liars for those who do not love a brother whom they have seen cannot love God whom they have not seen.*



Through Christ we learn to see
all of humanity as victims of sin.
Jesus was willing to die for them, therefore
we should be willing to love them.

Disgust: This section begins with the fearless observational truth that Stephen spoke.

Acts 7:52-58: (NASB) ⁵²Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the righteous one, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become; ⁵³you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it. ⁵⁴Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; ⁵⁶and he said, Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. ⁵⁸When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul. (Saul would later become the Apostle Paul. This event would later drive him to righteousness and deeper faith.)

When adopted by the masses, disgust becomes an uncontrollable force of destruction and ruin...



It is easy to hate and it is difficult to love. This is how the whole scheme of things works. All good things are difficult to achieve; and bad things are very easy to get. - Confucius

The actions of good King Josiah based in loving righteousness and hating iniquity in action:

2 Kings 23:12-14: (NASB) ¹²The altars which were on the roof, the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, the king broke down; and he smashed them there and threw their dust into the brook Kidron. ¹³The high places which were before Jerusalem, which were on the right of the mount of destruction which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the sons of Ammon, the king defiled. ¹⁴He broke in pieces the sacred pillars and cut down the Asherim...

There was a systematic deconstruction of the idols - it was driven by righteousness and not emotion. He took the evil apart piece by piece. Notice how even Solomon's folly is listed here - the result of wisdom governed by desire, rather than desire governed by wisdom.

We have to hate evil passionately and actively, not passively. We should hate what people do but not the people themselves.

How did Jesus "aim" his hatred of iniquity?

5. Hate properly aimed SHOULD always be at evil, not at people.



Nelson Mandela quote, *The Science of Forgiveness*, D News

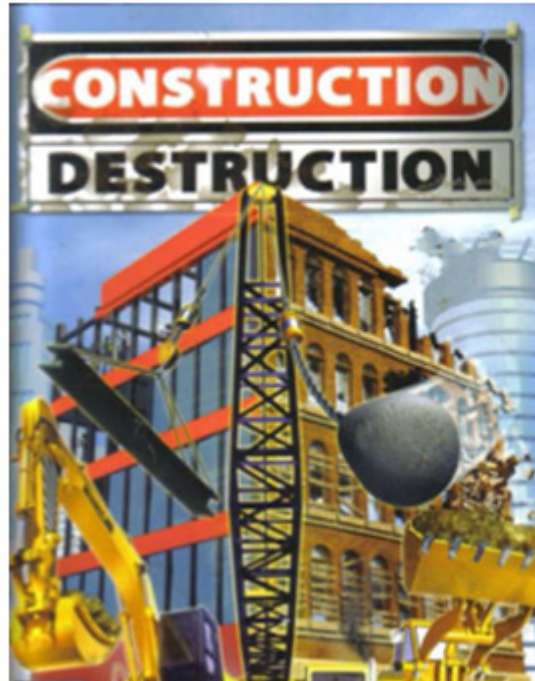
- *Humans are a complex mix of emotional states which all evolve to serve a purpose. For a long time forgiveness was thought to be in a realm of religion and philosophy, but science has begun to study the idea of forgiveness and the psychological and health impacts of letting go of internalized conflict. During Apartheid, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for nearly three decades. When he was finally freed in 1990, he refused to hold onto anger or resentment towards his oppressors saying, "As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind I would still be imprisoned."*

Jesus calling out the Pharisees:

Matthew 23:13-15: (KJV) ¹³But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in. ¹⁴Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. ¹⁵Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell (the Greek word Gehenna, a symbol of utter destruction) than yourselves.

Jesus called out none of them by name but merely denounced them as a class. Stephen also followed this approach, showing us that our stand against iniquity need not go down a path of emotionalism and personal attack - such a road is the self-same iniquity we condemn!

We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies. - Martin Luther King, Jr.



**Hate can be a
tool of
classic construction
or a weapon
of mass destruction!
It all comes down to
who wields it and
why they wield it...**

Hatred, properly placed in our lives, can build up. God's hatred builds up. Jesus' hatred for iniquity built up. We can follow those examples or, if we allow hatred to be run by our emotions, we can use hatred as a weapon of mass destruction. History proves this over and over with mass destruction "in the name of Christ."

There can be blessing in being the object of hate:

Luke 6:22-23: (NKJV) ²²Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets.

There is great honor in being categorized the same as Christ was:

John 15:15-20: (NKJV) ¹⁵No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in my name He may give you. ¹⁷These things I command you, that you love one another. ¹⁸If the world hates you, you know that it hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰Remember the word that I said to you, a servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will keep yours also.

Don't try to fight hatred with hatred. Jesus fought it with love, compassion and the sacrifice of his very life.



recap
recap

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- Hate properly assigned SHOULD be born out of conviction, not out of emotion.
- Hate properly acted upon SHOULD be right, just, wise and loving; not heretical, hypocritical, half-baked or hurtful.
- Hate properly aimed SHOULD always be at evil, not at people.

It is critically important for us to realize that hate is appropriate but ONLY according to the guidelines set for us by the life and examples of Jesus and the Apostles. Our hatred should not be against individuals but instead against the darkness of evil, knowing that God will prevail in the end.

Love righteousness with all of the passion within you! But hate iniquity by standing courageously and fearlessly against what it stands for.

*So, is it ever okay to hate?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*

*And now even more to think about...
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*



*What is the worst thing the Evil Urge can achieve? To make man forget that he is the son of a king.
- Rabbi Shlomo KaLevi of Karlin*

First, a look at a “good” object of hate:

Revelation 2:6: (NASB) *Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.*

Who were these Nicolaitans? (Source: Jamieson, Fausset and Brown) The Nicolaitans were a loose sect who sheltered themselves under the name of Christianity. They held hateful doctrines, and they were guilty of hateful deeds, hateful to Christ and to all true Christians; and it is mentioned to the praise of the church of Ephesus that they had a just zeal and abhorrence of those wicked doctrines and practices. An indifference of spirit between truth and error, good and evil, may be called charity and meekness, but it is not pleasing to Christ. Our Saviour subjoins this kind commendation to his severe threatening to make the advice more effectual.

Love the sinner - hate the sin!! This can be SO easy to confuse!



Jesus casting out the moneychangers a second time:

Mark 11:15-18: (KJV) ¹⁵And they come to Jerusalem: and Jesus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves; ¹⁶And would not suffer that any man should carry any vessel through the temple. ¹⁷And he taught, saying unto them, is it not written, my house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? But ye have made it a den of thieves. ¹⁸And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him: for they feared him, because all the people were astonished at his doctrine.

Once Jesus takes control, he teaches them the proper use of the Temple. This obviously shows the lack of emotionalism and the complete focus on righteousness that he had.

You cannot hate other people without hating yourself. - Oprah Winfrey

A suggestion to avoid hate - refrain from passing judgments:

Matthew 7:1-5: (NIV) ¹Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ²For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. ³Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴How can you say to your brother, Let me take the speck out of your eye, when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

Luke 18:9-14: (NRSV) ⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income. ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, God, be merciful to me, a sinner! ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Here is a concise list of things God hates:

Proverbs 6:16-19: (ASV) ¹⁶There are six things which Jehovah hateth; Yea, seven which are an **abomination** *<8441>* unto him: ¹⁷Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood; ¹⁸A heart that deviseth wicked purposes, feet that are swift in running to mischief, ¹⁹A false witness that uttereth lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

- A proud look (haughty eyes)
- a lying tongue,
- hands that shed innocent blood,
- An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations,
- feet that be swift in running to mischief,
- A false witness that speaketh lies,
- and he that soweth discord among brethren.

It is clear what God hates is the evil each and every one of us is capable of. God hates the spiteful, angry, jealous, egotistical, vengeful, prideful, deceitful, hurtful and idolatrous things that we do....

Let us hate those same things without hating the sinner!