

## Lesson 154 - What ought we to hate?

We are told that hate is a negative attitude and even unchristian, but what does the Bible have to say about proper hating? And when God encourages hating, that is not simple avoidance or even just tolerating it but outright hating it.

1. What doctrine should we hate? **Revelation 2:6, 15**

**EGW:** Is it [our sin] the sin of the Nicolaitans, turning the grace of God into lasciviousness (RH June 7, 1887)? {7BC 957.5}

The doctrine is now largely taught that the gospel of Christ has made the law of God of no effect; that by "believing" we are released from the necessity of being doers of the Word. But this is the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which Christ so unsparingly condemned (ST Jan. 2, 1912). {7BC 957.6}

2. What ought we to hate that could put spots on our Christ's righteousness garment? **Jude 1:23**

**EGW:** It is the duty of every Christian to vindicate the honor of God by winning souls to Christ. But where are the missionaries to answer the calls that come from all parts of the world? Only those who place themselves in Christ's school, only those who are willing to lift His cross, can be successful missionaries. Men who can be depended on in the church, who understand its wants, who strive to keep its members true to God; men who pray and keep themselves pure from the defilement of sin, hating even the garment spotted by the flesh; men who do not leave God out of their reckoning,-- these are the men whom God can use. {RH, May 21, 1901 par. 14}

3. What does the word for the previous question refer to seeing that it is not about eating it?  
**Ephesians 2:3**

**EGW:** The apostle Paul declares: "You hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience; among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy,

for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, . . . and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." {ST, October 13, 1898 par. 7}

Here is brought to view the change that must take place in the heart. And "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." The Scriptures are to be the great agency in this transformation. Christ prayed, "Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy Word is truth." The true Christian will show himself a believer in sanctification, and his works will testify of him that he is born of God. {ST, October 13, 1898 par. 8}

4. What are we to hate to be anointed with the oil of gladness? **Hebrews 1:9**

**EGW:** Of Christ it is written, "Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." God hates sin. It is the work of Satan to allure to evil. Satan has worked adroitly with bewitching power to fascinate the mind with iniquity, and make righteousness to appear undesirable. We need to remember continually that our secret sins are in the light of God's countenance. Of ourselves we cannot see or realize how grievous are our secret sins in the sight of God. Under the influence of Satan we are led to pursue a course of evil until our hearts become hardened, our conscience seared, and our thoughts are brought into captivity to the prince of evil. But God is ever seeking to impress our hearts by his Holy Spirit, that we shall be convinced of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment to come. We may place our will on the side of God's will, and in his strength and grace resist the temptations of the enemy. As we yield to the influence of the Spirit of God, our conscience becomes tender and sensitive, and sin that we have passed by with little thought, becomes exceeding sinful; for we begin to realize that our secret sins are in the light of his countenance. {ST, September 4, 1893 par. 1}

5. What are we to hate in this world to keep it in the eternal? **John 12:25**

**EGW:** The heavenly intelligences watch with intense interest the struggle between tempter and tempted. It is a life-and-death question that is being settled. Christ knows this, and before those whose souls are trembling in the balance, he holds up the sure test of obedience or disobedience, saying, "He that loveth his life"--his good name, his reputation, his money, his property, his business--"shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal." He who hates

the life which is lived in transgression of God's law, he who accepts the divine requirements, leaving God to take care of the consequences, will gain eternal life. "If any man serve me," Christ declares, "let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honor." {RH, November 13, 1900 par. 22}

6. We cannot serve two masters, but which one are we to hate? **Luke 16:13**

**EGW:** Said Jesus: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." If we are true servants of God, there should be no question in our minds as to whether we will obey His commandments or consult our own temporal interests. If the believers in the truth are not sustained by their faith in these comparatively peaceful days, what will uphold them when the grand test comes and the decree goes forth against all those who will not worship the image of the beast and receive his mark in their foreheads or in their hands? This solemn period is not far off. Instead of becoming weak and irresolute, the people of God should be gathering strength and courage for the time of trouble. {4T 251.1}

7. What two things does God hate that we should hate? **Zechariah 8:17**

**EGW:** Human beings are so corrupt that laws are made to throw the responsibility upon their own heads. Some men and women do not fear to lie to other people; but they have been taught, and the restraining Spirit of God has impressed them, that it is a fearful thing to lie to God. The case of Ananias and Sapphira his wife is given for an example. The matter is carried from humans to God, so that if one bears false witness, it is not to mortals, but to the great God, who reads the heart, and knows the exact truth in every case. Our laws make it a high crime to take a false oath. God has often visited judgment upon false swearers, and even while the oath was on their lips, the destroying angel has cut them down. This was to prove a terror to evildoers. {BLJ 178.3}

8. What are we to hate while loving the good and establishing judgment? **Amos 5:15**

**EGW:** "Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph." Verses 14, 15. {RH, February

5, 1914 par. 11}

But by far the greater number of those who heard these invitations, refused to profit by them. So contrary to the evil desires of the impenitent were the words of one of God's messengers, that the idolatrous priest at Bethel sent to the ruler in Israel, saying, "Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words." Amos 7:10. And through Hosea the Lord declared: "When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria." Hosea 7:1. "The pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the Lord their God, nor seek him for all this." Verse 10. {RH, February 5, 1914 par. 12}

From generation to generation the Lord bore with his wayward children, until he could do no more for them. "O Ephraim," he cried, "what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away." Hosea 6:4. {RH, February 5, 1914 par. 13}

The evils that had overspread the land and permeated all classes of society, had become incurable, and upon Israel was pronounced the dread sentence, "Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone." Hosea 4:17. "The days of visitation are come, the days of recompense are come; Israel shall know it." Hosea 9:7. "They shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney." Hosea 13:3. {RH, February 5, 1914 par. 14}

9. What do people serve that God hates and even calls it an "abominable thing"? **Jeremiah 44:3-4**

**EGW:** (no comment)

10. While God loves proper judgment, which we should too, what should we also hate like God does? **Isaiah 61:8**

**EGW:** No man will be condemned for not accepting light he has never received, or for violating a law he never heard. But when light comes to him from the word of God, and he neglects to live by it, but in his business transactions in connection with the work and cause of God, and in his dealing with his brethren, uses oppression, because he supposes he has power to oppress, he does himself great harm. He will not receive from his injustice and oppression the advantage he expects to receive. "I

hate robbery for burnt offering." A plea that it is to do good will not justify a man for working on wrong principles. {GH, August 1, 1900 par. 5}

11. What should we be aware of regarding when we hate? **Ecclesiastes 3:8**

**EGW:** (no comment)

12. What should we hate that will prolong our days? **Exodus 18:21, Proverbs 28:16**

**EGW:** (no comment)

13. More in the form of bribes, what ought we to hate to live eternally? **Proverbs 15:27**

**EGW:** Says the wise man, "Labor not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom." "He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live." Proverbs 23:4; 15:27. And the apostle Paul declares, "They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." 1 Timothy 6:9. {PP 168.2}

When Lot entered Sodom he fully intended to keep himself free from iniquity and to command his household after him. But he signally failed. The corrupting influences about him had an effect upon his own faith, and his children's connection with the inhabitants of Sodom bound up his interest in a measure with theirs. The result is before us. {PP 168.3}

Many are still making a similar mistake. In selecting a home they look more to the temporal advantages they may gain than to the moral and social influences that will surround themselves and their families. They choose a beautiful and fertile country, or remove to some flourishing city, in the hope of securing greater prosperity; but their children are surrounded by temptation, and too often they form associations that are unfavorable to the development of piety and the formation of a right character. The atmosphere of lax morality, of unbelief, of indifference to religious things, has a tendency to counteract the influence of the parents. Examples of rebellion against parental and divine authority are ever before the youth; many form attachments for infidels and unbelievers, and

cast in their lot with the enemies of God. {PP 168.4}

14. What does a righteous man hate? **Proverbs 13:5**

**EGW:** (no comment)

15. What should we hate that makes us "sure" with God? **Proverbs 11:15**

**EGW:** "He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure." {AH 391.11}

The eighth commandment condemns . . . theft and robbery. It demands strict integrity in the minutest details of the affairs of life. It forbids overreaching in trade and requires the payment of just debts or wages." {AH 392.1}

16. What three things does God hate that we should hate? **Proverbs 8:13 [one of them is stated twice in two different ways]**

**EGW:** "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding." "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate." {RH, December 7, 1905 par. 18}

O that Solomon had heeded in later years these wonderful words of wisdom that he was inspired to write! O that he who once declared that "the lips of the wise disperse knowledge," and who himself wisely taught the kings of the earth to ascribe to the King of kings the glory they desired to give him, had never with a "froward mouth," in "pride and arrogancy," taken to himself the glory due to God alone! {RH, December 7, 1905 par. 19}

17. What seven things ought we also to hate as they are an abomination? **Proverbs 6:16-19**

**EGW:** (no comment)

18. In addition to hating lying, what should we also do towards it showing that tolerance is not an option? **Psalms 119:163**

**EGW:** (no comment)

19. What is it that we ought to hate as we observe politicians and media spinning the truth? **Psalms 119:104, 128**

**EGW:** Like David, we may now pray, "It is time for Thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void Thy law." Men have gone on in disobedience to God's law until they have reached a point of insolence that is unparalleled. Men are training in disobedience, and are fast approaching the limit of God's forbearance and love; and God will surely interfere. He will surely vindicate His honor and repress the prevailing iniquity. Will God's commandment-keeping people be carried away with the prevailing iniquity? Will they be tempted, because universal scorn is placed upon the law of God, to think less of that law which is the foundation of His government both in heaven and in earth? No. To His church His law becomes more precious, holy, honorable, as men cast upon it scorn and contempt. Like David they can say, "They have made void Thy law. Therefore I love Thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold. Therefore I esteem all Thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way." {TM 21.1}

20. What type of thoughts should be hated? **Psalms 119:113**

**EGW:** Christ has borne our sins in His own body, and those who accept Him as a personal Saviour are free from the penalty of the law. Jesus has been made the propitiation for our sin, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. "Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth His word, in him verily is the love of God perfected. Hereby know we that we are in Him. He that saith he abideth in Him, ought himself also so to walk, even as

He walked." {RH, May 7, 1901 par. 12}

To the obedient child of God the commandments are a delight. David declares, "Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage forever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart. I have inclined my heart to perform thy statutes alway, even unto the end. I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love. Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word. Depart from me, ye evil-doers: for I will keep the commandments of my God. . . . I am thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies." {RH, May 7, 1901 par. 13}

21. While loving righteousness, what should we hate? **Psalms 45:7**

**EGW:** (no comment)

22. As movies and shows and even music turns viewers and listeners away from the ways of God, what should our attitude of hatred be towards? **Psalms 101:3**

**EGW:** From their infancy the youth need to have a firm barrier built up between them and the world, that its corrupting influence may not affect them. Parents must exercise unceasing watchfulness, that their children be not lost to God. The vows of David, recorded in the 101st psalm, should be the vows of all upon whom rest the responsibilities of guarding the influences of the home. The psalmist declares: "I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me. A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked person. Whoso privily slandereth his neighbor, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer. Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me. He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight." Psalm 101:3-7. {CT 119.1}