

## Do We Hate Evil?

*Hate evil, you who love the Lord, Who preserves the souls of His godly ones; He delivers them from the hand of the wicked (Psalm 97:10).*

The people of Israel were fully entrenched in idol worship. They had plenty of high places to worship any and every god that was worshipped in the region. They were constantly reminded of all the mighty works God did in their presence. They were also reminded all the nothingness that these idols did. Psalm 97 is another of those passages. They are reminded that God is the deliverer. He is a great God and a great King above all gods (Ps 95:3). Even still Israel practiced things that God hates.

*There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers (Prov. 6:16-19).*

This isn't an exhaustive list. This isn't meant to be a list of "seven deadly sins." It is a literary device to show emphasis. These things are seven sins that a certain people are doing and need to be addressed. These things which they are doing are things that God hates.

Have you ever made something and get frustrated that it isn't working correctly? Don't you just hate it when that thing does the opposite thing it is supposed to do? That is how God feels when we do those things that He hates.

God through Jeremiah told of a time of calamity that was coming to those people.

*Because they have forsaken Me and have made this an alien place and have burned sacrifices in it to other gods that neither they nor their forefathers nor the kings of Judah had ever known, and because they have filled this place with the blood of the innocent and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Ball, a thing which I never commanded or spoke of, nor did it ever enter My mind (Jer. 19: 4-5).*

God never even thought about having humans offered as sacrifices. Yet the people did it. GOD HATES EVIL.

Do we?

-Alex Swango