

# 7 Things God Hates

Proverbs 6:16-19

Calvary Bible Church

February 2, 2020

**Lesson Four:** Hearts that devise evil plans.

*"Watch the motions of God's blessed Spirit in your souls, and always try the suggestions or impressions that you at any time feel, by the unerring rule of God's most holy word: and if they are not found to be agreeable to that, reject them as diabolical and delusive."*

—George Whitefield<sup>1</sup>

## I. Review/Introduction

A. *God hates:*

1. Haughty eyes
2. A lying tongue
3. Hands that shed innocent blood

## II. God hates a heart that devises evil plans.

- A. **Zechariah 8:17** 'Also let none of you devise evil in your heart against another, and do not love perjury; for all these are what I hate,' declares the LORD."
- B. **Genesis 6:5** Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- C. **Jeremiah 17:9** <sup>9</sup> "The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?

## III. Why does God hate a heart that devises evil plans?

A. *Because our evil hearts delight in things that are unprofitable and irreverent.*

1. **Jeremiah 2:13** "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, The fountain of living waters, To hew for themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns That can hold no water.

B. *Because evil thoughts lead to evil actions.*

1. **Psalms 36:4** He plans wickedness upon his bed; He sets himself on a path that is not good; He does not despise evil.
2. **Micah 2:1-3** Woe to those who scheme iniquity, Who work out evil on their beds! When morning comes, they do it, For it is in the power of their hands.<sup>2</sup> They covet fields and then seize *them*, And houses, and take *them* away. They rob a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.<sup>3</sup> Therefore thus says the LORD, "Behold, I am planning against this family a calamity From which you cannot remove your necks; And you will not walk haughtily, For it will be an evil time.
3. **Matthew 12:34-35** "You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. "The good man brings out of *his* good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of *his* evil treasure what is evil.

C. *Because evil thoughts are often marginalized.*

1. **Psalms 94:7** And they have said, "The LORD does not see, Nor does the God of Jacob pay heed."
2. **Matthew 5:27-28** "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY',<sup>28</sup> but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
  - a. The point here is that many of them assumed that they were fine so long as their thought life did not carry over into sinful action. Jesus corrects this thinking by reminding them that the thought is considered sinful just like the action.

D. *Because our evil thoughts destroy our testimony by compromising our integrity.*

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<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Iain Murray's "Pentecost Today?" page 167

1. **Proverbs 24:8** One who plans to do evil, Men will call a schemer.

#### IV. What should we do about our evil, scheming hearts?

##### A. *We must repent:*

1. **Jeremiah 4:14** Wash your heart from evil, O Jerusalem, That you may be saved. How long will your wicked thoughts Lodge within you?
2. **James 4:8** Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

##### B. **We must guard our hearts with vigilance!**

1. **Proverbs 4:23** Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it *flow* the springs of life.
2. **Hebrews 12:14-15** Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;
3. **Ephesians 4:26-27** BE ANGRY, AND *yet* DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not give the devil an opportunity.

##### C. **We must concentrate our minds on things that bring honor to the Lord.**

1. **Philippians 4:8** Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

#### V. What can we do about this?

##### A. *We can remind ourselves that evil loves result in evil deeds.*

1. **Mark 7:20-23** And He was saying, "That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. <sup>21</sup> "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, <sup>22</sup> deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride *and* foolishness. <sup>23</sup> "All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

##### B. *We can cry out to God to fill our hearts with affection for Him and for the truth.*

1. **Proverbs 8:17** [*Wisdom speaking*] "I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me."

*God alone sees the heart; the heart alone sees God.*  
—**Thomas Manton**<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Quoted from "The Puritans Day by Day" page 328