

# The Correct Understanding and Handling of Hatred

*Scripture Reading:*  
**James 4:1-4**

# INTRODUCTION

- So far, we have looked at 8 of the 17 works of the flesh
  - Four were of a sexual nature
  - Four were of a religious nature
  - The next six are of an emotional nature
    - Gal 5:20 lists 'hatred' (enmities) as one of the 17 works. It is said to be the strongest of human passions
    - Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness

# Two Kinds of Hatred

**Silent Hatred** μισέω mis-e-o

- A disposition of hostility (dislike)  
Can be used correctly or incorrectly by a Christian
- Can lead to violent hatred

**Violent Hatred** ἐχθρα ek-thra

- Hostility itself -strong, overt dislike
- This hatred is a work of the flesh (Gal 5:20)
- A Christian should never yield to this level of hatred

# Appropriate Use of 'Silent Hatred'

## By Christ

- **Heb 1:9**

## By God

- **Rom 9:7-16**

## By Gospel-Era disciples

- **Lk 14:26**

## By NT believers

- **Jude 23, Rom 7:15**
- **Hating sin or unrighteousness,  
but not the sinner!**

# Inappropriate Use of 'Silent Hatred'

Not to even silently hate  
(dislike) your brother or  
sister in the Lord

- **I Jn 2:8-11; cf I Jn 3:15, 4:20**

Not to count a  
disobedient brother as  
an enemy

- **II Thess 3:13-15**

Recipients of  
(but not  
reciprocating)  
the World's  
Hate

Believers are objects  
of the world's hate

- **Jn 7:1-7, 15:18-19, 17:14**

Believer's are not to  
hate the people of the  
world system

- **Matt 5:43-44; cf Lev 19:17-18, Deut 23:3-6; Rom 12:20**

# The Believer has the Capability to Hate God



By using the mind of  
the flesh

- **Rom 8:6-7**

By determined  
friendship with the  
world system

- **James 4:4**



# CONCLUSION

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**Hating (disliking) unrighteous behavior of self or others is righteously appropriate**

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**But silently hating (disliking) the person, whether a believer or unbeliever, is never appropriate**