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Hate Pt 1 The heathen's hatred of God

This is our first study on the word "hate". We establish the meaning from the scriptures, and three points from the scriptures– (i) The heathen are hateful, and hate one another, (ii) the wicked hate instruction, and (iii) The heathen do not like to retain God in their knowledge, they hate God.

It is from our search of the scripture that we establish our three points–

1. The heathen are hateful, hating one another

"For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish...deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another" (Tit.3: 3).

2. The wicked hate instruction

"But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth? Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee" (Ps.50:16, 17).

3. The heathen do not retain God in their knowledge, they hate Him

"And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient [29] Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication...haters of God..." (Rom 1:28–30).

Illustration

Those in this world that love to introduce hate speech laws, are those who hate God, hate His son, and therefore hate the preaching of the gospel of Christ–crucified, which has the power to save a man today.

Questions of the scriptures

- i) How could the Jews, God's children, hate His Son, and therefore hate the Father?
- ii) What can Christian's learn from knowing about the heathen's hatred of Christ?

Answers from the scriptures

- i) The Jews delivered the Lord Jesus for envy– Mk 15:10 "For he knew that the chief priests had delivered him for envy" and jealousy is a catalyst for hate"– Gen.27: 41.

They hated Christ because their works were evil– Jn 7:7– "The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil".

They hated the Lord Jesus Christ because Satan had blinded their minds– "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ" (2 Cor.4: 4).

- ii) The benefit of this study for us today is to understand the heathen that hate us– and why, so that we can look to Christ and learn, and apply His example to our lives.
 - a) Christ's commandment to love our enemies and do good to those that hate us "But I say unto you...Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you" (Lk 6:27)
 - b) The Lord Jesus came in grace and truth– Jn 1:17– "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ".
 - c) Christ rebuked the Pharisee for their hypocrisy, and they hated Him–Matt.23: 33– "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?"

Compiling a teaching on the word "hate" is not as joyful as searching the word "love", but nevertheless, may we consider what motivates the heathen to hate God, and so pray for wisdom to reach them with the gospel! Amen!