TIME AND PURPOSE – HATE

“…and a time to hate;” (Eccl. 3:8) For some odd reason, odd to me at least, some of our people, that is church people, think there is no place for hate in the life of the Christian. A person that has the ability to love also has the ability to hate. They are two sides of the same coin.

I have always heard there is a thin line between love and hate. It is readily believed by many, that the object of one’s love can also be the subject of one’s hate, in some circumstances. Consequently many are careful about relationships, not to let one emotion be replaced by the other, with regard to the same person.

These emotions are those God has placed in us for He is that way Himself. “There are six things which Jehovah hateth; Yea, seven which are an abomination unto him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood; A heart that deviseth wicked purposes, Feet that are swift in running to mischief, A false witness that uttereth lies, And he that soweth discord among brethren.” (Prov. 6:16-19) If God hates these things, and much more, surely He would expect those who follow Him to be the same.

However, there are times when people tend to hate the wrong thing or the wrong person. Hating good or good people is not only wrong, it can be and often does, lead to sin. For instance, if a person hates another to the point of killing, that has got to be sin in God’s sight. To be consistent, followers of God, while loving good, will also hate the bad. While greater emphasis is placed on the good, as it should be, since bad is incompatible with the good, it must be hated.

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