

# A Time To Hate!

**Ecclesiastes 3:8** [New King James] *“A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.”*

**This is one scripture that many Christians find hard to accept in its complete form.**

*“A time to love”* is easily accepted for the God that Christians worship is love itself, [1 John 4:8, 10].

But *“a time to hate”* – surely that is not Godly!

**In this article we are going to see that to hate, Hebrew word used is “sânê” meaning to find utterly odious, can be reflecting the very mind of the Creator God.**

The key to understanding this is found in Proverbs.

**Proverbs 8:13** [New King James] *“The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate.”*

The Hebrew word translated *“fear”* is *“yârê”* meaning to revere, be in a state of awe by seeing the formidable inspiring works of our Almighty God.

The Hebrew word translated *“evil”* is *“ra’a”* referring to breaking up of all that is good and is reflective of all that Satan and his demons are doing in this world.

**We have to be taught to hate evil! Why? –**

**Because of the conditioning that our minds have received from Satan, so by nature we love evil!**

**Jeremiah 17:9** [New King James] *“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?”*

**This means that we can depart from evil as a policy in life and still love evil in our minds.**

Still find the thought of what we know is evil exciting and a thrill.

**How did this all start?**

**Genesis 3:1-5** [New King James] *“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden”?’ And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, “You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.”’ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’”*

The serpent [Satan – **Revelation 12:9**] appealed to Eve’s vanity and a lack of reverence for her Creator God, decided to live their own way of life, decide for themselves what is right and wrong.

**Genesis 4:3-8** [New King James] *“And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. So the LORD said to Cain, ‘Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.’ Now Cain talked with*

*Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.”*

Cain made a sacrifice but in his own way and then did **not** find the murder of his brother evil, utterly odious.

Things had not changed when the New Testament was being written by God’s inspired apostles, [**Romans 8:7-8; John 3:19; Matthew 15:19**].

**Romans 3:10-18** [New King James] *“As it is written: ‘There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one. Their throat is an open tomb; with their tongues they have practiced deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways; and the way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes.’”*

**The reason for this evil condition on earth was the lack of fear of the Almighty Creator God.**

**Psalms 51:16-17** [New King James] *“For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; you do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart, these, O God, You will not despise.”*

This is why God is more interested in a change of mind than in physical sacrifices and offerings.

Let us study **Proverbs 8:13** again, for certain attitudes of mind are on God’s “*hate list*” and should also be on ours.

Pride, arrogance, perverted speech, all cut us off from any relationship with our Creator God, [**James 4:6**].

**How do we bring about this change of mind?**

**Romans 12:1** [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

The Greek word translated “*bodies*” is “*soma*” meaning the whole life, body, mind and human spirit, [**Job 32:8**].

When we do this and request the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives [**Luke 11:13**] He will then begin the process of the complete re-education of our minds [**Romans 12:2**], until we have the same thoughts and reactions as the Triune God, God the Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Also the same characteristics, “*fruits*” of this relationship with the Holy Spirit, [**Galatians 5:22-25**].

**Only then will we hate evil [all that is sinful] and still love the sinner, [Romans 5:8; John 3:16-17].**