

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

August 15, 2021

Scripture Reading: James 4:8

I Serve the God Who Hates! *by Duane Patton*

While the article title probably grabbed your attention, it is also true! We normally frame our conversations around God's everlasting love, but perhaps a fair view of God should also be one that considers His everlasting hatred. Allow me to briefly explain.

The Proverbs writer reminds us about six things God hates and another that's far worse, still! While the passage below is set in a context of unjust human affairs which would be wise for a godly person to avoid, justification is given in that God also avoids such moral depravations. Let's notice the text:

These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren (**Proverbs 6:16-19**, KJV).

That's quite of list of decadent behaviors! I can't imagine serving a god who is known by any one of the above seven characteristics! Keep in mind that the passage quoted is a "short list" of things the God I serve actually hates. Maybe this is why the Psalmist declared, "Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way" (**Psalms 119:104, 128**). Even the apostle Paul would write similarly to Christians who were meeting together at Rome so long ago, "Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good" (**Romans 12:9b**, KJV; abhor = hate, DP). Come to think of it, God's intense hatred for sin is what compelled Him to create and carry out a plan that resulted in the death of Jesus! Sure, God's eternal love is vividly expressed in His unique Son dying on the cross for the sins of the entire world from beginning to end (**John 3:16; Romans 8:1-5; Revelation 13:8**), but this matchless love designed to rescue men from inferior ethics and eventual Hell arose from God's perfect and eternal hatred for sin. Next lesson: "I Serve the God Who Loves!" Have a great week!

Seeking first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness...

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Class
10:00 AM Worship
6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

6:00 PM
Prayer, Bible Study, Devotional

Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children's Home
Gulf Coast Bible Camp
Local Food Pantry
Annual Youth Events
Back-Pack Buddies
The Gospel of Christ TV (Fox 25)
Every Sunday at 6:30 AM

Foreign Missions:

Guyana, South America
India

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:

Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries

Local Wi-Fi Network Access:

SSID: 2Wire029
Key: 399572302
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Prayer Requests and Announcements

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open into their cry. ~ Psalms 34:15

Recent Requests:

Mike Kenney: surgery went well and infection is gone! Recovering with God's providential hand!

Scott Brown: Massive heart attack last week. He is in his mid-40's (Carla Clayton's nephew). He may still be in critical condition and on a ventilator.

Martha D'Orville: Head injury while at home. No hospitalization but prayers are welcomed!

Ken Ramsey: recently passed away. His widow is having complications with her knee. Please pray.

Richard Woods and his wife have been battling COVID. He is hospitalized and she is at home.

Girod's granddaughter Katie: diagnosed with COVID. Also remember **Dianne Robinson's niece, Suzanna Calton** who has COVID. She is only 10 yrs.

Taylor Manning: 30 yrs old and recently a new mother is now on a ventilator with COVID.

Wade and Joanna Phillips have returned from the Lord's work in Guam. Welcome back!

Others: _____

Continue to remember these:

Chip Quave

Nick Wages

Rick Bedwell

Grant Lavoto

Frank Sentelle

Norris Flasch

Jerry and Virginia Mobley

Earl and Linda Kenney

If you have any updates / corrections on any prayer requests or other announcements, please share them by sending an email to vco_christ@att.net or simply text or leave a voice message at 601-436-0868.

WEEKLY WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: There's always time to love – after all when everything else stops, love just keeps on going!

“Love never ends”

(1 Corinthians 13:8a *ESV*)

Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2021

Week 33

MONDAY	Jeremiah 26-29	From the letters to the exiles, how might we learn to live even under poor leadership?
TUESDAY	Jeremiah 30, 31	What does the note of hope in these chapters tell us about God's love?
WEDNESDAY	Jeremiah 32-34	What sins did the people commit here, and why was God so horrified?
THURSDAY	Jeremiah 34-37	Jeremiah imprisoned over a lie. What are some lies that circulate in our media today?
FRIDAY	Jeremiah 38-40	Why were the officials afraid to seriously injure or kill Jeremiah?
	Psalms 74, 79	
SATURDAY	2 Kings 24, 25	Was God controlling King Cyrus? If so, does God also control us all?
	2 Chronicles 36	
SUNDAY	Habakkuk 1-3	Have you ever cried out to God about the wrong behaviors of groups of people? How might God's reply to the prophet be comforting to those in social anguish?

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105