



A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



“Does God Hate?”

In recent years, we have seen much emphasis placed on the need for us to show love to the sinner. I know the Bible tells us to love, but it seems to me that things

have gotten a bit unbalanced. Perhaps we need to take a fresh look at how God views both sin and the sinner. I want to warn you, that some of what you are about to read may disturb you.

Let me start by telling you that even though God is a God of love, He hates sin. He hates sin because it is a destroyer. It destroys the plan of God for our lives, destroys marriages, and sends people to hell. It should not be difficult to understand why a loving God would hate sin.

Proverbs 6:16-19 TPT

16 There are six evils God truly hates and a seventh that is an abomination to him:

17 Putting others down while considering yourself superior, spreading lies and rumors, spilling the blood of the innocent,

18 plotting evil in your heart toward another, gloating over doing what's plainly wrong,

19 spouting lies in false testimony, and stirring up strife between friends.

One of the greatest evangelists of our time was Billy Graham. He said “It’s God’s love for man that prompts him to hate sin with a vengeance. We in the church have failed to remind this generation that while God is love, He also has the capacity to hate. He hates sin and will judge it with the fierceness of His wrath. This generation is schooled in the teaching of an indulgent, soft-hearted God whose judgments are uncertain and who coddles those who break His commandments. This generation finds it difficult to believe that God hates sin. **I tell you that God hates sin just as a father hates a rattlesnake that threatens the safety and life of his child.** God loathes evil and diabolic forces that would pull people down to a godless eternity just as a mother hates a venomous spider that is found playing on the soft, warm flesh of her little baby. It is His love for man, His compassion for the human race, that prompts God to hate sin with such a vengeance. He gave Heaven’s finest that we might have the best, and He loathes with a holy abhorrence anything that would hinder our being reconciled to Him.”

The Bible is very plain about the fact that He hates sin, and that you and I should also hate sin.

Romans 12:9 Amplified Bible

9 Love is to be sincere and active [the real thing—without guile and hypocrisy]. **Hate what is evil [detest all ungodliness, do not tolerate wickedness];** hold on tightly to what is good.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

"Does God Hate?"
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Proverbs 8:13 Amplified Bible

13 "The [reverent] fear and worshipful awe of the Lord includes the hatred of evil....

But, as they say in the infomercials, "Wait, there is more!" It may shock you to find out that not only does God hate sin, but He also hates some sinners.

Psalms 11:5 Easy-to-Read Version

5 The Lord examines those who are good and those who are wicked; **he hates those who enjoy hurting others.**

Psalms 5:5-6 Amplified Bible

5 The boastful and the arrogant will not stand in Your sight; **You hate all who do evil.**

6 You destroy those who tell lies; The Lord detests and rejects the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

Charles Spurgeon had this to say about Psalms 5:5.

"It is not a little dislike, but a thorough hatred which God bears to workers of iniquity. To be hated by God is an awful thing."

This is hard for us to understand. How can a loving God hate not only sin but also the sinner and still love? I can't wrap my head around this. It seems like an oxymoron for which I don't have the answer, but I know it is true because the Bible says it.

The bigger question we need to answer is: If God hates sinners, shouldn't we also hate them? Yes, God hates both sin and some sinners, but He never tells us to hate them. Why?

The answer is really quite simple; we are not God, so we are in no position to judge them, let alone hate them. All we see are the outward things they do and we hate those things because obviously, they are pure evil. But, God sees beyond this. He sees the battles of the mind they struggle with every day. He sees the things that make them do what they do, and He has love and compassion that we can't begin to comprehend. That is why He can hate a person, but we must never do the same.

This is something I have struggled with. When I see the wickedness of some who call themselves Christians, it makes me very angry and it would be easy to hate them. But, I know this is something God forbids and I am committed to living by what God's Word says. God is the only one capable of sorting this all out, so I pray for His grace and pass it off to Him. I don't need to hate them.



**He is not willing that any
should perish, but that all
should come to
repentance.**

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH