

THE CHRISTIAN CASE FOR POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT #4

I. Introduction

I want to continue making 'The Christian Political Engagement'; Why do this?

Because, in the face of the greatest onslaught of political evil in American history, many who stand in the pulpits and sit in the pews are not engaged!

Even though our borders are overrun and our streets drip with blood; even though we have drag shows in our schools and a President that proudly proclaims Easter Sunday as "LGBTQ Visibility Day".

Yet millions of professing Christians sit silently on the sidelines, as if this is all just 'business as usual'.

At some point, one must wonder, where is our righteous anger?
Where is our hatred for sin and for those who blaspheme the name of our God?
My title tonight is...

"Perfect Hatred"

This title is taken from a declaration by King David...

Psalm 139:21-22

Do I not hate them, O Lord, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? *I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.*

Tonight, I would like to teach on 3 points to ponder,,,

3 Points To Ponder

- 1. Not all anger is sinful anger; the Bible tell us God gets angry**
- 2. Not all hatred is sinful hatred; the Bible tells us God hates**

Point To Ponder

A church that fails to feel holy anger or perfect hatred has lost its love for the honor of God and His righteousness...and may soon lose its country.

Love is at the center of the Christian faith; love for God and for others. But you cannot love God or others without hating that which hates what you love.

If you truly love good, you will hate evil. (Amos 5:15)

If you love marriage, you will hate divorce.

If you love your children, you will hate anyone who would abuse or harm them. And of course, if you love your country you will hate those who want to destroy it

Coach Dave Daubenmire

Yes, my friends. Hate can be a good thing. In fact, America would be a better place if the American Church started to hate some things.

II. Perfect Hatred

A. Not All Anger is Sinful Anger: The Bible Tells Us That God Gets Angry

1. Like most of you, I was rightly taught early on that fleshly anger is a sin; Christians are to 'love our enemies'; we are to 'pray for those who persecute us'; and 'turn the other cheek'.

2. Also, like most of you, I was rightly taught early on that God is good; God is love; God is gracious and kind, and merciful. All this is true.

a. And then one day I read this...

Psalm 7:11

God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day.

3. This was the verse opened the door to my discovery that that led to my discovery that even though 'God is love', He also gets angry...

THE ANGER OF GOD

Angry with Moses (Deuteronomy 1:37; Exodus 4:4)

Angry with Aaron (Deuteronomy 9:20)

Angry with Solomon (1 Kings 11:9)

Angry with Isaiah (Isaiah 12:1)

Angry with Israel (Deuteronomy 9:8; Numbers 1:11)

4. Some people would say, “that’s the way God was in the Old Testament” (a really stupid argument); but we can see the same principle applied in the ministry of Jesus; for example, when the Pharisees rebuked Him for healing on the Sabbath Day...

Mark 3:5

And after looking around on them with anger, and grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand’.

a. The most dramatic expression of anger was when He cleansed the Temple...

John 2:14-15

And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.

5. Some would say ‘Jesus can be angry without sinning because He is God’; but the Apostle Paul says the same thing is possible for God’s people..

Ephesians 4:26

“Be ye angry, and sin not” (KJV)

“Be angry...and yet do not sin”. (NASB)

“Be angry without doing wrong.” (BBE)

Ephesians 4:26 (Wuest)

“Be constantly angry with a righteous indignation...”

Kenneth S. Wuest Expanded Translation

a. I like this translation because it identifies holy anger as ‘indignation’.

“INDIGNATION”

Strong displeasure at something unjust, offensive, or insulting; righteous anger

6. Fleshly anger is a sin; but indignation is a righteous anger that rises up within us when we witness an abuse of power, or gross political injustice.

a. We have a holy obligation to speak to those holding political power:

Psalm 2:10-12

Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little.

7. So we see that not all anger is sinful anger; God gets angry; and saints can 'be angry and sin not'. In the same way...

B. Not All Hatred is Sinful Hatred Because There Are Things God Hates

1. The Church has done a good job of rightly teaching that God is love; but we have forgotten to teach that there are things that God *hates*.

What Does God Hate?

**A false witness who speaks lies (Proverbs 6:19)
One who sows discord among brethren (Proverbs 6:19)
Those with a perverse heart (Proverbs 11:20)**

What Does God Hate?

**A false balance / false weights / false scales (Deuteronomy 25:13-16, Proverbs 11:1, 20:10, 20:23)
Evil plans (Proverbs 15:26)
He who condemns the righteous (Proverbs 17:15)
He who justifies the wicked (Proverbs 17:15)**

a. God hates those who accuse the innocent as well as those who let the guilty go free.

b. God hates all sin; but certain sins are said to be an 'abomination' to Him...

Abominable Sins

Homosexuality (Leviticus 18:22)

Bestiality (Leviticus 18:23-24)

Those who murder their own children (Deuteronomy 18:10)

c. God even has something to say about transgenderism:

Deuteronomy 22:5

A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the Lord your God.

Psalm 5:4-6 BBE (sums it up)

For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wrongdoing; there is no evil with you. The sons of pride have no place before you; you are a hater of all workers of evil. You will send destruction on those whose words are false; the cruel man and the man of deceit are hated by the Lord.

d. We could multiply many more examples but the point is made; in the same way that not all anger is sinful anger because God has anger, so not all hatred is sinful hatred because there are things that God hates.

e. God's people need to know that there is such a thing as 'righteous anger' that is not sinful, and there is also such a thing as 'perfect hatred'.

2. With that in mind, let us return to our text in Psalm 139; David is crying out to the Lord for deliverance from evil men...

Psalm 139:19-20

Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take Your name in vain.

a. Take note that the cause of his anger; David was not angry because the wicked were dishonoring him; he was angry because evil men were speaking wickedly against God and taking His name in vain!

G. Gresham Machen

Why should we be indignant about slanders directed against a human friend, while at the same time we are patient about the basest slanders directed against the Lord our God?

b. We live in a culture today where people take get angry and offended over any little thing said about them; but they remain silent when something slanderous is said about God.

c. David had a different spirit; he did not hate those who hated him; he hated those who hated God!

Psalm 139:21-22

Do I not hate them, O Lord, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? I hate them with *perfect hatred*; I count them my enemies.

d. Many modern American ministers would never preach a sermon on this subject because it doesn't smack right with the culture; but our Puritan forefathers were not so shy to address it...

Treasury of David

'I hate them with perfect hatred'; David leaves no matter of question. He does not occupy a neutral position. His hatred toward bad, vicious, blasphemous men is intense, complete, energetic. He is as whole hearted in his hate of wickedness as in his love of goodness.

Treasury of David

I count them mine enemies. He makes a personal matter of it. They may have done him no ill, but if they are doing dishonor to God, to his laws, and to the great principles of truth and righteousness, David proclaims war against them.

3. The best Bible comments on this Psalm come from the great Charles Spurgeon who gives us some guidelines on this:

Charles Spurgeon

To hate a man for his own sake, or for any evil done to ourselves, would be wrong; but to hate a man because he is the foe of all goodness and the enemy of all righteousness, is our obligation.

a. Personal comment: this is my great litmus test when I feel anger, indignation, or even hatred toward something or someone; if my anger is due to evil done toward me, it is sinful; if my hatred is due to evil done toward God or His word, it is not only *not* sinful, it is my obligation!

Charles Spurgeon

David was a good hater, for he hated only those who hated good. He is not ashamed of this hatred; he sets it forth as a virtue to which he would have the Lord bear testimony. To love all men with benevolence is our duty; but to love any wicked man with complacency would be a crime.

b. A godly man need not be ashamed of holy hatred toward wicked men; how could he do otherwise?

Charles Spurgeon

David asks, 'Am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?' He appeals to heaven to notice that he took no pleasure in those who rebelled against the Lord; but that, on the contrary, he was made to mourn by the sight of their ill behavior.

Charles Spurgeon

Since God is everywhere, He knows our feelings towards the profane and ungodly, and He knows that, far from approving such characters, the very sight of them is grievous to our eyes.

c. Full disclosure: There are people in politics and in the mainstream media that make me sick when I see them;

Albert Barnes

The word "grieved" explains the meaning of the word "hate" in this passage. It is not a hatred which is followed by malice or ill will; it is that which is accompanied by grief, pain of heart, pity, sorrow. So the Savior looked on men in Mark 3:5.

d. Perfect hatred always has a sense of sadness or grief at how far men have fallen away from God.

Treasury of David

A good man hates, as God Himself does; he hates not the persons of men, but their sins; not what God made them, but what they have made themselves.

George Horne

4. Let me offer a word of wisdom to any out there who may still be struggling with the idea that our loving God also hates some things....

GotQuestions.org

No one should be surprised to learn that God does hate some things. He created us with the capacity to both love and hate, and we must acknowledge that hatred is sometimes justified—we *naturally hate things that destroy what we love*. This is part of our being created in the image of God.

a. There is nothing more natural than for us to love what God loves and hate what God hates; then, as with David, God's enemies become our enemies.

Charles Spurgeon

The more we love God the more indignant shall we grow with those who refuse Him their affection. The loyal subject must not be friendly to the traitor.

III. Close

A. Review

3 Points To Ponder

- 1. Not all anger is sinful anger; the Bible tell us God gets angry**
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B. We Must Understand the Times!

Ecclesiastes 3:1

To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven:

The next 8 verses are an extended passage where Solomon catalogues 14 contrasting times and season of life:

**-A time to be born a time to die
-A time to sow, a time to reap
-A time to laugh a time to weep; and then v. 8...**

Ecclesiastes 3:8

There is a time to love and a time to hate.

There was a time for David to sit on the hillside and sing songs to the Lord;
but when Goliath came onto the field, it was time for a fight. David said...

1 Samuel 17:29

Is there not a cause?

**Isn't this a time for the Church to express holy anger and perfect hatred?
Isn't this a time to rise up and become politically engaged?**

**When the President declares Easter Sunday to be Transgender Visibility Day?
When illegal immigrants are given free cell phones, healthcare, and lodging in
luxury hotels at our expense.
Will it take more police killed?
More women and children raped by illegal immigrants?
More Drag Queen performances in our public schools?**

Charles Spurgeon

**It is said that Adam Smith (Scottish political philosopher) disliked nothing more
than moral apathy —a lack of moral perception that prevents a man from
clearly seeing the broad distinction between virtue and vice; and which, under
the pretext of liberality, indulges even the blackest crimes.**

Closing Prayer

Title

