

“Proverbs 6:16-19—Part 3”

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a seven-part series. The title of the presentation was “Proverbs 6:16-19—Part 3.”

The presentation began with the third listed characteristic that God hates—that being “hands that shed innocent blood.” From there, I also talked about the third characteristic that God loves—that being “hands to help the guilty.”

No one is totally innocent

On one hand, there is no one who is totally innocent.

- Romans 3:10—Paul said that there is none righteous, no not one.
- Romans 3:23—Paul reminded his audience that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

Devil treats people poorly

But the devil has a history of treating people worse than they deserve.

- 1 Peter 5:8—The adversary (the devil) seeks to devour people.
- Revelation 12:10—The devil is the accuser of the brethren.

Civil leaders hurt innocent people

- Exodus 1:8-14—Pharaoh set up taskmasters over the children of Israel—putting hard bondage upon them.
- Exodus 1:22—Pharaoh made a decree to kill “every son who is born.”
- Isaiah 1:14-15—When the Lord talked to the kings of Judah, why did He hate their New Moons and the appointed Feasts, and why did He hide His ears from their prayers? The answer: “Your hands are full of blood.”
- Daniel 3:1-6—Nebuchadnezzar set up a huge image of gold and insisted that the people worship the image.
- Matthew 2:16—Herod made a decree to kill “all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts from two years old and under.”

Religious leaders hurt innocent people

- Matthew 7:21-23—Did you see what Christ said about some who claim to do wonders in His name? Christ said: "I never knew you."
- Matthew 16:21—The Son of God told His disciples that He would suffer many things from the elders, chief priests and scribes—before they killed Him.
- Matthew 26:3-4—Matthew reported that the chief priests, scribes and elders plotted to use trickery to kill Christ.
- Matthew 26:59—The chief priests, elders and all the council sought false testimony against Christ to put Him to death.
- 2 Corinthians 11:13—False apostles were deceitful workers who transformed themselves into apostles of Christ.
- 2 Corinthians 11:14—Satan transforms himself into an angel of light.
- 2 Corinthians 11:20—The people allowed the false religious leaders to do five things to them—take them into bondage, devour them, steal from them, exalt themselves over them and to strike them in the face.
- 2 Peter 2:1—False teachers secretly brought in destructive heresies (even denying the Lord, who bought them with His life).

Harmful actions and words

Notice that innocent people get hurt by both actions and words.

- Isaiah 59:3—Thus said the Lord: "For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity. Your lips have spoken lies. Your tongue has muttered perversity."
- Isaiah 59:4—The Lord continued: "No one calls for justice, nor does any plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies. They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity."
- Isaiah 59:7—The Lord added: "Their feet run to evil and they make haste to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity. Wasting and destruction are in their paths."

Father and Son help the guilty

- John 3:16—The Father and Son give everlasting life.
- John 5:21-27—The Father and Son raise the dead and give life.

The Father has appropriate wrath

- John 3:36—John wrote: "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life, and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life—but the wrath of God abides on him."
- Revelation 19:15—Wrath of Almighty God.

The Son has appropriate wrath

- Mark 3:5—Christ “looked around at them [the Pharisees] with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts.”
- Revelation 6:16-17—Wrath of the Lamb.

What about Christians?

Is it permissible for the children of God to feel anger?

- Ephesians 4:26—Paul quoted Psalm 4:4 when he wrote: “Be an angry, and do not sin.”
- 2 Timothy 4:14-15—Paul recognized the people who were trying to hurt him.
- Romans 12:17-21—Paul taught that people should let vengeance come from God.

Christ’s instruction

- Matthew 25:34-40—Christ said His disciples should help when people need food, drink, shelter, clothing, good health and visitors in prison.

Example of the Son of God

- Matthew 14:13-21—Christ fed 5,000.
- Matthew 15:32-38—Christ fed 4,000.
- Luke 4:40-41—Christ healed many and rebuked demons.
- John 5:1-16—When Christ healed on the Sabbath, He said: “Sin no more.”
- John 8:1-11—When Christ forgave the adulterous woman, He said: “Sin no more.”
- Luke 19:41-44—Christ wept over Jerusalem.
- Luke 22:31-32—Christ prayed for Peter.
- Luke 22:41-44—Christ prayed about His death for every person.
- Luke 23:34—Christ prayed: “Forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”
- Romans 5:6-7—Christ died for the ungodly.
- Romans 5:8—God demonstrates His love for us—in that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.