

PSALM 97:10(NLTSE) You who love the LORD, *hate evil!* He protects the lives of His godly people and rescues them from the power of the wicked.

PROVERBS 8:13(NKJV) The fear of the LORD is to *hate evil*, pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate

- Recap: Last week we discussed the concept of hating evil and why God dealt so severely in getting rid of evil by ordering that everything that breathed be killed.
- We're living in a world where people have lost sight of the difference between good and evil. **ISAIAH 5:20(NLTSE)** What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.

2 TIMOTHY 3:1-5(NLTSE) " You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. 2 For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. 3 They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. 4 They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. 5 They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that"

- *It's important to learn to hate evil for the following reasons:*

1. Our enemy is real. Satan is real. We're not simply opposing a different philosophy.
2. Some of the devil's names after his fall, reveal his character: tempter, ruler of demons, Beelzebub (meaning lord of the flies), the evil one, enemy, liar, father of lies, murderer, adversary, dragon, old serpent, deceiver, accuser.
3. Satan's purpose is clear:
JOHN 10:10(NLTSE) The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life
4. Hating evil, sets the tone for what we're willing to allow into our lives:
PHILIPPIANS 4:8(NLTSE) And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

5. Hating evil will ensure that we let the Lord deal with us and not satan:

LUKE 22:31(NLTSE) "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat (here, satan desires to thoroughly mess you up)

MATTHEW 3:11-12(NLTSE) " I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am, so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be His slave and carry His sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. He is ready to separate the chaff from the wheat with His winnowing fork. Then He will clean up the threshing area, gathering the wheat into His barn but burning the chaff with never-ending fire."

- Wheat was trampled on a threshing floor by animals, to break the chaff away from the wheat,

then thrown up into the air with the winnowing fork, so that the wind would blow away the chaff and the heavier grain would fall to the floor to be gathered up.

- Do you want satan holding the winnowing fork or Jesus?

6. Hating evil will keep us from compromise: **2 CORINTHIANS 6:17(MSG)** So leave the corruption and compromise, leave it for good, says God. "Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself."

7. Hating evil, shuts the door in the devil's face, before he has an entrance into our life:

EPHESIANS 5:3(NKJV) But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it **not even be named among you**, as is fitting for saints(*ie. not even a rumour of sin*)

1 THESSALONIANS 5:22(KJV) Abstain from all **appearance of evil**.

- It mustn't even look, like a Christian is dabbling in anything evil

CARE GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Discuss some of the things the world calls good and evil and how these differ from what the Bible teaches is good and evil.
2. How can we apply PHILIPPIANS 4:8 to our practical day to day lives?
3. What attitude must we have in our hearts, to hate evil?