

“There are six things the Lord hates— no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.” Proverbs 6:16-19 NLT

lectio // Proverbs 6:12-19

Interesting thing about those who say they “know” God. God is love. And yet there things God hates as well. The wisdom writers, in a few different places records some of them. I think most folks hate these things as well and have difficulty with people who constantly display these qualities: Arrogant eyes, lying tongue, killing hands of innocent, plotting evil hearts, feet that run to do wrong, false witness and a discord sower in families. Whew. This would make it difficult to befriend these folks without constantly being in drama-trauma! Of course, the bigger question begs, “Why does God continue to let people do these things?” Why doesn’t he stop them, or put them out of their misery. Ah, this gets into the question of why there is evil at all. God has given humans a thing called free will. There is EVIL because of us - we choose it and do so all the time. God gave each of us a choice to do right, and more to the point, he put in each human soul to KNOW the difference between right and wrong and let them choose between them. So take away a liars freedom to lie and I would need to take away your freedom to do the things you want to do as well. Can’t God just select some who are really evil and put a stop to it? Yes, he could, but then where would God stop with that premise? With you? The entire human race has chosen to do evil! Should he wipe them all out? Judge all of them? He has wiped out humanity once and will judge everyone in the end. But for now, Proverbs lists some doozies that God really doesn’t like to see is us.

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Dad,

I can’t say that I’ve done all these things you hate, but I have done a few of them. And, I hated them (in me) as well. I always thought I strongly hated them in others because there was a slight reflection of myself when I see people acting out in these ways. As you know, I get extremely annoyed when I see powerful people acting out these qualities on the weak or the innocent- like children. I see RED, when an adult overpowers a child by yelling, manipulating or physically overpowering them. I’m sure you hate that as well. I’d rather try to be doing the things you LOVE anyways.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root