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May 17, 2020

No. 15

THE ABOMINABLE SEVEN

A loving God can hate. The Bible says so. Of course God hates sin, every sin, But Solomon has drawn up a special list of seven which are an abomination to our Maker.

- 1. A PROUD LOOK. Lofty eyes serve as an indicator of a haughty heart. Pride, which would vie with God and nudge Him off His throne, is at the very bottom of the well of sin. Lord Elton said, "The Devil is doubtless perfectly content to see us becoming brace or chase or generous or good-tempered, provided that we remain proud."
- 2. A LYING TONGUE. Holmes has observed that "sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle which fits them all." This sin is so serious that it brought immediate death in the early church to Ananias and Sapphira. To a God of truth, the perversion of truth is no small matter.
- 3. HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD. Blood is here used as a word-symbol for death. Life belongs to God. He gives it. If one sheds innocent blood, he joins hands with Judas, who confessed to this sin (Matthew 27:4), and with Satan, "who was a murderer from the beginning" (John 8:44).
- 4. A HEART THAT DEVISEH WICKED IMAGINATIONS. Instead of using one's intellectual abilities for the cause of righteousness, the pursuit of peace and the progress of mankind, the sinner revels in thoughts of iniquity, manufactures mischief and turns his heart (mind) into a workshop forthe Devil.
- 5. FEET THAT ARE SWIFT IN RUNNING TO MISCHIEF. This is a case where sin is sought out and swiftly entered into. As soon as the heart plans the evil, the feet are eager to work the plan.
- 6. A FAISE WITNESS THAT SPEAKETH LIES. Of the seven things God hates, two of them pertain to lying. Here is a plain violation of the Ninth Command, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Someone has observed that the man who speaks lies under oath "defies his Maker, perverts justice, wrongs the innocent, releases the guilty, is disloyal to his country and outrages his own conscience."
- 7. HE THAT SOWETH DISCOURD AMONG BRETHREN. God's delight is in concord, not discord. And those who stir up brethren through malice, gossip, slander and evil surmises are singled out for Divine displeasure. Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers." And our text says, "Cursed are the mischiefmakers."

Watch out for THE ABOMINABLE SEVEN. They spell trouble.

- John Gipson, via The Bellview Beacon, Pensacola, FL -

Actions lie louder than words. - Carolyn Wells

News & Notes

CONFESSION & RESTORATION: Alex (Delong) Harless.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Jason & Tamara Sprout on the birth of a daughter, Payton Olivia on **May 7th**. The proud grandparents are John & Sharon Sprout. Best wishes to all.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: Dewey Moore III (Oak Glen), and Jacob Spencer (Southern Local). Jacob is the grandson of Dean & Sandy Spencer. Congratulations and best wishes to these young men.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: Dave Exline (Hanoverton congregation) has serious health issues.

SHUT-INS: CROSSROADS: Sarah Miller. VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER: Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). IN FLORIDA: Ilene Rayl, 1745 Pointe West Way, Vero Beach, FL 32966.

MAKE A NOTE OF THESE 2020 CALENDAR CHANGES

- No Fellowship meals until further notice (maybe September for our meeting).
- Area-Wide Sing (Chester & St. Clair Ave.) at St. Clair Ave., June 5 -CANCELED.
- Our VBS, June 15-19, CANCELED.
- Summer Bible Camp, July 6-11. Postponed until 2021.

My Unchanging Lord

Changing world, changing time, Another song, a newer rhyme. Through it all one stay I find In my unchanging Lord.

Changing seasons, changing styles, Changing faces, changing smiles. My soul has traveled many miles With my unchanging Lord.

Unchanging Lord, unchanging love,
Forever flowing from above.
Unchanging truth, unchanging Word
Praise His name! Oh, precious Lord.
- Shidey Harvey-

Nature forms us
Sin deforms us
Prisons try to reform us
Education tries to inform us
But it is the power of Jesus Christ that can transform us
- Author Unknown -