

Seven Characteristics That God Loves

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BIG SANDY, Texas—There are four verses in the book of Proverbs (Proverbs 6:16-19) that list seven characteristics that God hates. When a Bible student sees the list, he notices that the adversary reflects all of these characteristics.

When we consider the opposite of the seven characteristics, we can recognize seven characteristics that God loves, and we can notice that the Son of God reflects all of the positive characteristics.

Humble outlook

God hates a proud look.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits a proud look:

Matthew 4:9—"And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

Here is a section of verses that show how the Son of God exhibits a humble outlook:

Philippians 2:5-8—"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

Truthful tongue

God hates a lying tongue.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits a lying tongue:

John 8:44—"You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."

Here are verses that show how the Son of God exhibits a truthful tongue.

John 8:45-46—"But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?"

Hands to help the guilty

God hates hands that shed innocent blood.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits hands to shed innocent blood:

Job 1:11—"But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

Here is a section of verses that show how the Son of God exhibits hands to help the guilty:

Romans 5:6-8—"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Caring heart with righteous purposes

God hates a heart with wicked imaginations.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits a heart with wicked imaginations:

Luke 22:31—"And the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.' "

Here is a section of verses that show how the Son of God exhibits a caring heart with righteous purposes:

Luke 4:17-19—"And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.'"

Feet swift to edification

God hates feet that are swift to run to evil.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits feet that are swift to run to evil:

Matthew 13:19—"When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside."

Here is a section of verses that show how the Son of God exhibits feet that are swift to edification:

John 8:7-11—"So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, 'He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.' And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. Then those who

heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, 'Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said to her, 'Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.' "

True witness

God hates a false witness.

Have you ever considered the difference between a lying tongue and a false witness?

It is my perspective that a lying tongue has a broader perspective and a false witness has a narrower perspective.

A lying tongue often involves selfishness: lying to get things or lying to gain favor.

A false witness is generally designed to hurt people.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits the trait of a false witness:

John 13:27—"Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, 'What you do, do quickly.' "

Here is a verse that shows how the Son of God exhibits the trait of a true witness:

John 18:37—"Pilate therefore said to Him, 'Are You a king then?' Jesus answered, 'You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.' "

Sowing peace and unity

God hates the sowing of discord.

Here is a verse that shows how Satan exhibits the trait of sowing discord:

Revelation 12:4—"His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born."

Here is a section of verses that show how the Son of God exhibits the trait of sowing peace and unity:

Ephesians 2:14-18—"For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."