

NORTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sermon Notes - Six Things the Lord Hates Plus 1 (Part 3)
#3 Hands That Shed Innocent Blood and #4 The Heart That Is Devises Wicked Plans

Prov 6:16-19

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Prov 6:16-19 16 These six things the LORD hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: 17 (1) A proud look, (2) a lying tongue, (3) hands that shed innocent blood, 18 (4) A heart that devises wicked plans, (5) feet that are swift in running to evil, 19 (6) A false witness who speaks lies, (7) and one who sows discord among brethren. NKJ

Brain Teaser: Question; How long was Cain mad at his brother? Answer: As long as he was able.

Today I want to continue with the 6 things plus 1 that God hates. I hope to cover #3 and #4

#3 Hands That Shed Innocent Blood

#4 The Heart That devises wicked plans

#3 Hands That Shed Innocent Blood

The first example of this in the Bible was the murder of Able by his brother Cain. Able was innocent and was murdered. There is a difference between killing and murder.

Murder - the crime of unlawfully killing a person especially with malice aforethought

For a person to take the life of another without legal cause and is innocent of any crime or wrong doing is deemed to be murder.

Kill - to deprive of life: cause the death of.

If a person is judged to be guilty of a crime and the penalty is death then that person's life is to be taken and there is no charge of murder in the eyes of God. For his death was lawful.

Deut 27:25 25 "Cursed is the man who accepts a bribe to kill an innocent person.

NIV

Deut 19:11-13 11 But if a man hates his neighbor and lies in wait for him, assaults and kills him, and then flees to one of these cities, 12 the elders of his town shall send for him, bring him back from the city, and hand him over to the avenger of blood to die. 13 Show him no pity. You must purge from Israel the guilt of shedding innocent blood, so that it may go well with you. NIV

The Bible also records the shedding of innocent blood by royalty in the story of Naboth the Jezreelite. You can read the full story in *1 Kings 21:1-16*.

I mention this story because it entails all seven of the things God hates, including both of the topics for the day.

The story of Naboth the Jezreelite

1 Kings 21:1-10 21:1 Some time later there was an incident involving a vineyard belonging to Naboth the Jezreelite. 2 Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth."

The vineyard was in Jezreel, close to the palace of Ahab king of Samaria.

SOME THINGS ARE VALUED ABOVE WEALTH AND POWER.

The request of Ahab was for his convenience, a selfish reason. He thought that because he had authority and wealth that nothing would be denied him. There are people today who feel that because of their position and wealth that they should never be told no. This is the type of pride that God hates.

(#1) Haughtiness is an attitude that they should not be denied.

3 But Naboth replied, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers."

Num 36:7-9 7 No inheritance in Israel is to pass from tribe to tribe, for every Israelite shall keep the tribal land inherited from his forefathers. 8 Every daughter who inherits land in any Israelite tribe must marry someone in her father's tribal clan, so that every Israelite will possess the inheritance of his fathers. 9 No inheritance may pass from tribe to tribe, for each Israelite tribe is to keep the land it inherits." NIV

Wicked plans are born out of pride, covetousness and selfishness

4 So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jerreelite had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." He lay on his bed sulking and refused to eat.

Ahab is exhibiting the sin of **pride and haughtiness**

To be spoiled and pout because you cannot have your way will make you vulnerable to developing wicked plans. One of the Ten Commandments tells us not to covet. Covetousness is an ingredient in many sins. It is when we want something that is not ours that we may begin to lust and plan on how to get it. That is not a bad thing to do. We can plan to get a job to by that car we want as opposed to planning on how to steal it. We can make the effort to get what we want the way God wants us to get it.

Covetousness has caused many of us to be slaves to the money lender and many addictions that plague our society.

But in this message, we are looking at how covetousness leads to wicked plans and the shedding of innocent blood.

AHAB WAS WEAK, SPOILED AND A MAMA'S BOY.

5 His wife Jezebel came in and asked him, "Why are you so sullen? Why won't you eat?" 6 He answered her, "Because I said to Naboth the Jezreelite, 'Sell me your vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard in its place.' But he said, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'"

Ahab was sulking like a baby and his wife/ (surrogate mother), came to inquire of the matter. Attention is why we sulk and put on our sad face. We want our way or at least pity. Ahab has never grown up.

ROLE REVERSAL WAS NOT GOD'S ORIGINAL PLAN.

He told Jezebel his wife why he was so sad. He probably did so in a crying voice. Jezebel was no doubt the dominant partner in their relationship. It is a shame to me to see a "man" abdicate his God given position as the head of the household in favor of the wife. This condition is perpetuated by so many head of households where the mother has to raise young boys.

I am not trying to promote a male chauvinist concept. God has an order for everything. It does not have to mean that the woman is less than a man it means that God has order. In His family it is God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit.

1 Tim 2:12-13 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. NIV

For now, let's just absorb the part about God's order and that it was Adam that was first born. The other references in this verse we will discuss at some other time.

7 Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."

Here his wife rebukes him and orders him to eat and cheer up. In most bibles you can see the exclamation points denoting the tone in which she said it.

And she tells him what he wants to hear that she will get him the vineyard. Driven by covetousness and pride.

(#4) THE HEART THAT IS DEVISES WICKED PLANS

The plans are beginning to be made.

8a So she wrote letters in Ahab's name,

Remember the two things we talked about last week (#2) "**the lying tongue**" and giving a false impression". The lie kicks off the wicked plan. First, we have pride, now a lie. (one sin will always lead to another)

8b. placed his seal on them, and sent them to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city with him.

Placing the seal deceives those who read it into thinking that it was an official order from the king. Here is another lie.

I remember changing my report card in order to deceive my mother that I got a "B" instead of an "E". the "B" was a lie and I was trying to deceive.

(#4 again) THE WICKED PLAN

9 In those letters she wrote: "Proclaim a day of fasting and seat Naboth in a prominent place among the people. 10 But seat two scoundrels opposite him

Often deceit is hidden in a false positive. (a good thing or good purpose) Like giving to the poor or a good cause only to make the promoters rich.) There are always people ready to do wrong

My wife and I often laugh while watching some action movies, as to how the bad guy can get so many other bad men together. They keep coming out of the woodwork for the hero to beat up or kill.

Since I have lived in Texas, I have heard so much about people hiring or trying to hire another person to kill their spouse or someone.

Jezebel specifically asked for two scoundrels. Scoundrel was translated from the original word Belial.

BE'LIAL (be'li-al; "worthlessness, wickedness"). Belial is often used in the KJV as if it were a proper name, but beyond question it should not be regarded in the OT as such, its meaning being "worthlessness," and hence "recklessness, lawlessness." The expression "son" or "man of Belial" must be understood as meaning simply a worthless, lawless fellow (Deut 13:13, KJV; Judg 19:22; 20:13, see marg.; etc.).

Watch out for those who swear by God or "to" God.

Matthew 5:34–37 (NKJV)³⁴ But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne;³⁵ nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.³⁶ Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black.³⁷ But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Here are two more things that God hates

(#6) A false witness who speaks lies, and (#3) hands that shed innocent blood
10b and have them testify that he has cursed both God and the king. Then take him out and stone him to death."

Notice how she bring into her lie the name or person of the king and the name and person of God.

I think it is a bad habit and sacrilegious to interject God into our statement to prove its truth. For example, "I swear to God." When I hear that I immediately think that there is something false about what is being said. First, why isn't that person's word good enough that he or she won't need to bring God into it?

Ahab and Jezebel were willing to shed innocent blood just to get a garden.

There is nothing that we can do that God does not know about it. Ahab and Jezebel did not care about God **nor did they fear God**. They were fools.

*Job 28:28 8 And he said to man, 'The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.'"
NIV. Ps 111:10, Prov 1:7, Prov 9:10, Prov 15:33, Mic 6:9, Isa 33:6.*

If you do not remember anything at all about this sermon, I want you to leave here wise in the fear of the Lord. This fear is not one of trembling as a scared rabbit, but a reverential fear of one that can destroy the body and the soul.

My advice is not original or new. Jesus said in over 2,000 years ago

Matt 10:28 28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. NIV

Those who practice these 7 things listed here are the ones that should fear God but they seem to have no fear.

In this short Biblical story, we have five (5) of the 7 things that God hates.

So often the wrong we do can have a lasting effect upon our family. Ahab and Jezebel may have thought they got away with what they did but later it came back upon their son Joram (aka Jehoram).

*2 Kings 9:24–26 (NKJV) ²⁴ Now Jehu drew his bow with full strength and shot Jehoram between his arms; and the arrow came out at his heart, and he sank down in his chariot. ²⁵ Then Jehu said to Bidkar his captain, "Pick him up, and throw him into the tract of the field of Naboth the Jezreelite; for remember, when you and I were riding together behind Ahab his father, that the LORD laid this burden upon him: ²⁶ **'Surely I saw yesterday the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons,' says the LORD, 'and I will repay you in this plot,' says the LORD. Now therefore, take and throw him on the plot of ground, according to the word of the LORD.'***

Christians know that the **MOST INNOCENT BLOOD SHED OF ALL IS THE BLOOD OF JESUS.**

Message Scriptures: Prov 6:16-19, Deut 27:25, Deut 19:11-13, 1 Kings 21:1–16, Num 36:7-9, 1 Tim 2:12-13, Matthew 5:34–37, Job 28:28, Ps 111:10, Prov 1:7, Prov 9:10, Prov 15:33, Mic 6:9, Isa 33:6, Matt 10:28, 2 Kings 9:24–26

End