

**The 7 Things God Hates**  
**What God Hates—and Why It Matters to Spirit-Filled Believers**  
**Dr. John Carmichael**

**[Pro 6:16-19 NASB95] 16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, 19 A false witness [who] utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.**

- When people hear the phrase “the things God hates,” it immediately triggers tension. Some picture an angry God with a short fuse. Others shut down, assuming condemnation is coming.
- But Scripture does not present God’s hatred as temperamental or arbitrary. It presents it as relational.
- God hates what threatens love. God hates what destroys truth. God hates what damages life with Him.
- Proverbs 6 is not a list of sins God is eager to punish. It is a warning from a loving God who knows what will poison hearts, fracture community, and grieve His Spirit.
- This series is not about shame. It is about alignment. It is about protecting the presence of God among a Spirit-filled people.

**What does God hate and why does it matter to me today?**

**Here are four things to understand about what God hates and why it should matter to us.**

**I. GOD’S HATRED IS RELATIONAL, NOT REACTIONARY**

- a. Proverbs 6:16–19
- b. The word “hates” here reflects covenant language. The term appears in passages about God’s relationship with His people, where loving God means covenant faithfulness and hating Him means covenant breach. This is not rage. It is protective love.
- c. Everything listed damages: relationships, trust, community, the inner life.
- d. God hates what separates people from Him and from one another.
- e. [Jhn 14:23 NASB95] 23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.
- f. God desires to dwell, not merely to rule. The Holy Spirit is not an impersonal force. He is a Person. Relational rupture affects divine fellowship
- g. Application: Ask: Is my understanding of God shaped more by fear than relationship? Evaluate whether obedience flows from love or obligation. Open your heart to humility, not defensiveness.

**II. SIN AFFECTS SENSITIVITY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- a. [Eph 4:30 NASB95] 30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
- b. The Spirit can be grieved. That means He is: personal, responsive, relational.
- c. Sin dulls spiritual awareness before it destroys spiritual power.
- d. [1Th 5:19 NASB95] 19 Do not quench the Spirit;
- e. [Psa 51:11 NASB95] 11 Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.
- f. We believe in the anointing, the gifts, the manifest presence of God. But those things require sensitivity.
- g. You can be gifted and still be grieving the Spirit.
- h. Application: Ask: Am I attentive to what dulls my spiritual sensitivity? Practice daily repentance as relational recalibration. Holiness preserves spiritual clarity.

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**III. WHAT GOD HATES, THE SPIRIT SEEKS TO HEAL**

- a. [Act 2:42-47 NASB95] 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they [began] selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.
- b. This passage shows what happens when nothing hinders the Spirit: devotion to truth, authentic relationships, unity, power, joy, growth.
- c. Every item in Proverbs 6 threatens this kind of Spirit-filled life.
- d. [2Co 7:1 NASB95] 1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
- e. [Jas 4:8 NASB95] 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
- f. Revival is not sustained by excitement alone. It is sustained by aligned hearts. God removes what He hates because He wants to release what He loves.
- g. Application: Shift the question from "What can I get away with?" to "What invites God's presence?" Pursue purity as a path to power. Frame repentance as restoration, not rejection.

**IV. THIS SERIES IS ABOUT PROTECTION, NOT CONDEMNATION**

- a. [Pro 6:19 NASB95] 19 A false witness [who] utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers. (the final sin: sowing discord)
- b. The list ends with a corporate sin. God cares deeply about: unity, trust, community health
- c. The Spirit flows most freely where hearts are aligned.
- d. Jesus prays for unity. [Jhn 17:21-23 NASB95] 21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, [are] in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.
- e. We are God's temple together. [1Co 3:16-17 NASB95] 16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God and [that] the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.
- f. Unity is not optional. It is spiritual infrastructure. Division repels what unity attracts: God's glory. God opposes what fractures the dwelling place of His Spirit.
- g. Application: Commit to guarding relationships. Reject gossip, accusation, and spiritualized division. Choose love over being "right".

- **God's hatred is not arbitrary; it is His loving opposition to anything that destroys love, truth, and life with Him.**
- God does not hate because He is angry. God hates because He is holy and loving.

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- Everything He opposes is something that: breaks hearts, destroys trust, damages community, dulls spiritual life
- This series is an invitation: to examine our hearts, to realign our lives, to protect the presence of God among us
- What God hates, He wants to remove, so He can release what He loves.

**Altar:**