

*"Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath Eternal Life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we the Love of God, because He laid down His Life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the Love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in Truth." 1 John 3:15-18 KJV*



Hate is murder, cruelty, and selfishness. *"God is angry with the wicked every day. Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: The fear of the LORD is to hate evil."* Love, like hate, is an action not an emotion. We may hate words and deeds by objecting to them, but we show our love best by restraint and private rebuke. Help with temporal needs if you can. We can hate words and deeds, but not our brethren. *"If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established."* Non-biblical preferences are not to be unkindly foisted on another. If you hold something sacred which is not specifically mandated by God's Word, that's fine, but don't disdain those who do not; likewise, they you. God will convict His own of wrong doing, chastening them as well. *"One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. None of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. Destroy not him with thy meat (choices), for whom Christ died."* Christmas is a great controversy for some believers. Pagans performed wicked rituals on many different days, but it doesn't mean one can't hold that day sacred to the Lord. Those who do not, should not accuse those who do of heresy. We are accountable only to God. I am not your judge nor you mine! We are both God's servants. *"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples; if ye have Love one to another."* When believers fight with one another, we sully the testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and we are not obeying God's Word. If bitterness rules, we serve sin. *"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you, lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled."* Bitterness is born of unwillingness to forgive. God's forgiveness is ready before it's sought, but not extended until sought. If forgiveness is given before sought, it condones the sin. *"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye."* We are to be like Christ; forgiving, but not condoning. Were we not Christ's enemy when He was crucified? *"Consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself."*

Saints for saints should have not hate,  
For hating is a murderous state,  
When we love saints who treat us wrong,  
Then God will fill our heart with song. ~CGP

Is Satan using other's evil deeds to provoke you to hate? Revisit your own undeserved forgiveness!

*"And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, 'FATHER, FORGIVE THEM; for they know not what they do.' And they parted His raiment, and cast lots." Luke 23:33-34 KJV*