

## ***GOD HATES***

More people talk and think about the love of God and neglect to learn that God hates. Solomon learned about the love of God from his father's psalms (like Psalm 23). He also learned that God sometimes hates for he said, *These six things the LORD hates, yes seven...* (Prov. 6:16-19).

On **Wednesdays at 7PM**, we are learning what God hates. Some of them are obvious, and all of them apply to you and me. Many of the things God hates are things we write about in these articles. For example, God hates *haughty* (arrogant) eyes. It takes arrogance to make a human idea equal, or superior, to God's ideas. Back in December, we warned you of people who make "Christmas" equally as important as the first day of the week, though only one of those is a day given by God (Lk. 24:1; Acts 20:7; Rev. 1:10). God also hates hands that shed innocent blood. Recent attention on murders in various abortion clinics are a reminder that God hates these hands. Future studies include verses which show God hates idolatry, discord, and divorce. You need to learn what God hates, so please come join these studies. As always, call or write us with comments or questions (**QVCOC.COM**).

Editor's note: This week's article combines both a few words of teaching along with an invitation for the community to join in our weekly studies. Use this article to invite someone... *anyone!* All of us will meet someone, whether casually or intentionally, this week who would learn from this class. Of course, inviting others to come means you must be there too! Let's work *together* to learn and spread the truth this week. Our articles appear in *Arkansas Weekly* every other week (June 5, 19).

### Other important information:

- Our fall meeting with Wayne Goff has been scheduled for **September 22-27**. Please prepare your schedule so we can work and assemble together that week.
- Our booth at the Independence County Fair has been reserved, July 15-20.
- *Summer Bible Series* July 22-26 (evenings)

*We assemble each Sunday at 10AM, 10:45AM, 5PM & Wednesday at 7PM*

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# The Exhorter

Acts 11:23 *Exhorted them all... cleave unto the Lord*

Church of Christ--Quail Valley

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## ***YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROGRAM***

*Robert Turner*

In the small town of Sundridge, Ontario, Ca. 300 miles north of the U.S.—Canadian border, the young folk of a small congregation (45-50) put many of their U.S. counterparts to shame. They are High School and under: with the same love for and participation in sports, parties, etc., that is common with this age. But they also—and preeminently—love the Lord.

They sat together, listening to my sermons and taking notes. That's fine "stroking" for a preacher. But it became apparent they had more serious things in mind than pleasing a visiting speaker. I began to hear of their teaching "sessions" at school and in their homes. They had "taken aim" on this or that boy or girl, and were working to convert them to Christ. On one occasion I went to a home for a meal, and was told to bring information on the Jewish Sabbath, etc., for a young man would be there to talk about this. I made some notes, and as I began to present them, I found only a few things in my "outline" that had not already been worked out by the young people who were interested in teaching their Adventist friend. It was gratifying to see the mutual respect shown in such studies. When the prospect showed signs of having "had enough" for the time, they let up. "Let it cool awhile" as one of them put it. Older folk should learn that.

I heard them speak of a young man who was much interested in the gospel of Christ, but whose parents were opposed to his being baptized. They had a "feeling" for the boy, and for the parents too. There were rumors the boy would have to leave home if he obeyed the gospel, but one night he walked boldly down the aisle and confessed his faith in Christ. We went to Lake Bernard for the baptizing. As car lights played on the fog-shrouded waters, and a wild duck swam small circles in the edge of the light, the boy and the preacher walked into the cold waves, and we witnessed a

burial and a resurrection. Joy swept the band of witnesses like an electric current, and as they sang “Oh Happy Day—“ there was scarcely a dry eye.

It was only after the baptizing, that I learned that the boy’s parents had been present at the service, and showed approval of the deed. The new brother was welcomed into the circle of Christian boys and girls, and soon I heard they were “taking aim” on another lost soul— using their fresh reinforcement.

Want the punch line? This church has no “Recreation Hall” or other unauthorized “church socials.” It has, instead, converted young people.

[www.aubeacon.com/Articles2012/Article\\_YoungPeoplesProgram.html](http://www.aubeacon.com/Articles2012/Article_YoungPeoplesProgram.html)

*Editor’s Note:* Do we, and will we in the future, have young people like this? God’s “young people’s program” includes older women making opportunities to teach the younger women (Titus 2:3-5) and older men making time to teach the younger men (Proverbs 11:14). God’s “young people’s program” includes parents training young minds to be attentive to God (Proverbs 22:6; also see “Discipline in the Home” in our bulletin of June 2, 2013). So, if you truly want young people like the ones mentioned in the above article, are you willing to invest your time to help it happen? As children grow they must evaluate the training of their parents and choose for themselves (Joshua 24:15). Let’s be busy filling their minds with all the reasons to choose life (Deuteronomy. 30:19; John 14:6).

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## ***HOW LONG IS THE LINE?***

*Brent Hunter*

Before I begin a Bible study of religious matters with a group of people I like to hand out some 3 X 5 inch cards with a single straight line in the center of the card. I then ask them all to give an estimate, or guess, as the exact length of the line. Invariably I receive a variety of answers — "one inch," "an inch and a half," "two inches," "one and three-quarter inches," etc. After a few observations and comments about their guesses, I pull out a small pocket ruler and let all watch as I measure the line and get the exact truth as to its length. This serves as a good foundation for a profitable study. The discussion usually begins something like this:

"Now, everyone here was sincere in his belief as to the length of the line: and one opinion is just about as good as any other, is it not? There is no way to determine, merely by looking, who is right, or who is wrong, or if ALL are wrong! (Obviously, they can not all be right if there are differences in their estimates.) As the old saying

goes, 'your guess is as good as mine.' On this basis, it really does not matter whom you believe. One person's opinion is as good as another's.

"However, when we take out the ruler — the established measure or authority to determine the length of the line — we can know exactly how long the line is. That settles the question for all. And every "estimate" or "guess" or "opinion" which was not exactly in harmony with the ruler's measurement was WRONG. This is not being close-minded, or doubting the sincerity or honesty of any person's guess. It is merely applying the established rule to find out what the TRUTH of the matter is!

"Now, in matters of religion, the Bible is our rule or standard of authority. Paul wrote Timothy, 'Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work.' (II Tim. 3:16, 17) The Bible, then, is all we need. It speaks with authority.

“Authority is needed and recognized in every area of life. Without it, a baseball game would become a riot, an army a mob, and a nation would cease to exist. Religion is more than 'wishful thinking' or 'imagination.' Baseball has its rule book, an army has its orders, and our nation has its constitution. Religion has the Bible.

"Since this is so, 'my opinion' or 'your opinion' mean absolutely nothing. What God says through his word is what counts. In fact, we are commanded, 'Whatsoever you do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of (by the authority of) the Lord Jesus.'" (**Col. 3:17**) We must have authority for all we believe and practice, Jesus warned us that 'the words that I spake, the same shall judge him in the last days' (**John 12:48**). My sincere guess or opinion may be wrong — and if so, I will be judged accordingly. So, in religion, it DOES matter what you believe! We must all answer Bible questions by finding Bible answers, and then be willing to accept those answers as final. And just as with our "guess" about the length of the line, if we still hold to our original "opinion" regardless of what the authority says, then we have ceased to be honest. The idea is not, 'I'm right and everybody else is wrong,' but rather, The Bible is right, and everyone out of harmony with its teachings is WRONG. 'If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God.' (**1 Pet. 3:11**)"

*Vanguard - Sept 1979*