

July 23, 2021

Pv. 6:16-19, “There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.”

Since we know that the heart is the place of our soul, it is no wonder that the LORD hates a heart that is bent upon doing wicked things. Our heart shows what we are all about. It is out of the overflow of the heart that our mouth speaks. What is in a person’s heart will make its way out of that person.

Now the interesting word in this phrase is *devises*. The Hebrew word is **choresh** which means *to implement, meditate or put into practice a plan*. Here we see that this is not just a random act of sin, but a premeditated or determined path of rebellion. Again we see this in the evil one, who no doubt, schemes and plans ways of temptation, deceives people and entices them to believe a lie. He is so wicked that he desires every person to be separated from the LORD for eternity. **John 10:10a, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.”**

Praise the LORD that we can choose to submit our hearts to the One Who will watch over and protect us. He gives joy instead of sorrow. He brings life instead of death. He gives forgiveness and grace instead of accusations and slurs. Our Father hates the wicked schemes of Satan and of man, but He loves a heart that is full of His love, joy, patience, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control. When the LORD looks at your heart, what does He see?

Dear LORD, help our hearts to be in line with Your will. You are good all the time. We are not. Help us to confess, repent and return to You and Your ways instead of our own. In Jesus Name, Amen.