

## THE BIBLE VIEW

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### Abomination!

*Bill Brinkworth*

According to Noah Webster's 1828 American Dictionary of the English Language, an "abomination" is an "extreme hatred, a detestation". As harsh as that label is, there are many things that the Word of God defines as an abomination to God. It may surprise the "God is love" crowd when they discover there are things that God hates with disgust.

Although the word "abomination" occurs most in the Old Testament, God does not change (Malachi 3:6). What He hated over two thousand years ago, He still hates today.

Here are some of what the Bible describes is an abomination to God:

**Not worshipping God the way He commands.** Many in the Old Testament did not abide by God's Laws, and it was an abomination to Him. Not worshipping Him the way He wants us to worship Him today is also an abomination.

*"He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination."* Prov. 28:9 Also: Lev. 7:18, Lev. 11:13, Deut. 17:1, Deut. 23:18, Isa. 1:13.

## **Idolatry and false worship.**

*“Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.” Deut. 27:15*  
Also: Deut. 7:25, Deut. 12:31, Prov. 15:8, Prov. 21:27, Jer. 32:35, Eze. 18:12.

## **Those that are habitually disposed to disobedience and opposition (“froward”).**

*“They that are of a froward heart are abomination to the LORD: but such as are upright in their way are his delight.” Prov. 11:20* Also: Prov. 3:32.

## **Deceitfulness, even in business.**

*“A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.” Prov. 11:1* This is referring to weighing a product with dishonest measurements.

*“Divers weights, and divers measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD.” Prov. 20:10* Also: Prov. 20:23.

## **Lies.**

*“Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.” Prov. 12:22*

*“These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,” Prov. 6:16-17*

## **Those that show their contempt by what they say or by facial expressions (“scorner”): bad attitudes!**

*“The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men.” Prov. 24:9*

**Sexual Sin, including adultery, incest, homosexuality, and fornication (sexual relations between unmarried people).**

*“And one hath committed abomination with his neighbour's wife; and another hath lewdly defiled his daughter in law; and another in thee hath humbled his sister, his father's daughter.” Eze. 22:11 Also: Deut. 22:22.*

*“Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” Lev. 20:13 Also: Lev. 18:22.*

**Not honoring the differences in the sexes God created.**

*“The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.” Deu. 22:5 Also: I Cor. 6:9.*

**Remarrying a divorced spouse.**

*“Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the LORD: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.” Deu. 24:4 Also: Jer. 3:1.*

**Boasting pride.**

*“Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished.” Prov. 16:5*

**All wickedness.** Those that live an unrestrained lifestyle of wanton sin are an abomination unto God.

*“The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the LORD: but he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.” Prov. 15:9 Also: Prov. 15:26.*

**Toleration of wickedness.**

*“He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD.” Prov. 17:15*

*“And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.” Luke 16:15*

Reading this incomplete list certainly should put a “Gulp!” in most of our minds, as some of our everyday or excepted behaviors are an abomination to the Creator. His never changing Word puts a spotlight on current day practices. No one can please God with that kind of sinful actions. We need to change! With God’s help and a repentant heart a saved person can keep a distance from behavior God hates.

It does not matter if current law allows or approves of certain practices and actions. People’s acceptance or approval also does not matter in the light of what God feels about our sin. If God says it is something He hates, we should be doing all we can to apologize and turn from doing abominable acts. How can anyone expect God’s hand of

guidance, help, and grace when he is committing things God will not tolerate!

**“If God is against sinful behavior, so should we be!”**

## **Evil in God’s Eyes**

*Bill Brinkworth*

Reading through the Bible, one similar phrase occurs over 49 times, particularly in the Old Testament. It is a phrase that indicates someone, or a people, were doing “evil in the sight of the Lord” or “evil in the eyes of the Lord”.

Perhaps, the people committing the sin did not recognize their transgressions were wrong or angering God. Maybe it was the farthest thing from their minds; but while they were doing wrong, God was watching, and His hammer of judgment would shortly pound down and shatter their plans and intents. Others also would suffer. Perhaps they even thought, as they do today, “Oh, everyone is doing it”, or “I’ve done this before and nothing ever happened, so why should it now?” However, in God’s eyes it was evil.

What was it that was so wicked in God’s eyes? Their offenses included complaining, idolatry, not giving God the attention and respect He deserved, casting spells, witchcraft, killing innocent people (including children), observing of the times (similar to what we would call astrology), and not obeying God’s commandments. Reading through that list does not sound any different than what is happening today.

Discontentment is shown by what is uttered from many complaining lips today. Not many are happy with what they have, or who they are. They had hopes that “things” would fill the empty spots in their lives, but their lives were even more empty when they obtained them.

God is certainly not getting the respect He should be getting, as many mock Him and live contrary to how His Word instructs us. Sin is on the rise, but there never is a time when the people, as a whole are happy. Current statistics indicate many are suffering from depression, and many had so little hope that they took their own lives.

Practicing witchcraft and occult involvement is also increasing. Many of today’s popular movies have these practices in the movie’s theme, and are even watched by Christians. This type of behaviour is seen as “cool” rather than evil.

Life has less meaning to many, which explains the rise in murders and even the taking of unborn babies' lives through abortion. Too many are ignorant of what God’s commandments are. It is quite evident that evil, by God’s standards, is rampant today.

Many more are affected in the 49 uses of the phrase than just the committers of sin. Examinations of the phrase show that:

- 12 of the usages of the phrase were remarks about individuals that were not leaders.
- 16 of the usages referred to national sin; usually the nation of Israel.

- 33 of the usages referred to a leader, such as a king. They are the ones we remember as doing “evil in the sight of the Lord.”
- 23 of the usages indicated that the person committing the sin was following someone else’s example, as: “as did his father”, or “walked in the way of his father”.
- Six of the usages made it clear that the one doing evil was forcing others to do likewise.

Interestingly, we see that only 12 of those seen by God as doing wicked were common folk, like you and me. Everyone sins, and God sees everyone’s sin. This wickedness rated serious demands by God to be stopped, and to teach others not to continue committing the wickedness.

The highest offenders against God were the leaders of the country. Thirty-three times the leader was recalled as doing “... evil in the eyes of the Lord ....” Their influence, quite often, turned the entire nation to sin against God.

If our leaders would only see this! If they would only see how their laws and leadership are no different than those that God judged in the Bible. Hopefully, they would change their leadership to one that God would bless rather than discipline all of us for. Many kings in the Bible have a testimony recorded forever in the Word of God as one of those that did “evil in the sight of the Lord”. What a terrible epitaph on one’s life to be remembered for doing wrong! Unfortunately, many of today’s leaders will also be remembered for an evil leadership.

In many of the phrases, another frightful reality is apparent. Much of the parents' wickedness was copied by their children. Over 23 times, those that did evil were doing just like their parents did. "... walked in the way of his father ..." explains where the wicked-doer got their instruction. A parent's sin can not only ruin their own life and their children's, but the wages of their sin can affect future generations (Ex. 20:5, Ex. 34:7, Num. 14:18).

In a time when it is not important to many what God thinks about them, we need to realize that our feelings and opinions have nothing to do with how God deals with our sin. No one gets away with sin. There is always a price tag on wickedness (Romans 6:23). In most of the verses talking about doing evil, God's judgment and punishment on the people was not far behind. In many of the cases God allowed wars, famines, loss of freedom, and captivity to teach that there is always a price for doing wrong. No one gets away with sin! Payday is always someday!

By doing right, according to God's commands in His Word, one can have a completely different testimony. It does not have to be he "did evil in the sight of the Lord." It could be the God-approved testimony of "... Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things ..." Matthew 25:23.

***"Evil as such is the only thing I am able to do without God."*** *Jacques Maritain*