

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## Hating What God Hates

(Jerry Fite)

**T**he Holy Spirit reveals the following from the heart of God: “*There are six things which Jehovah hateth; yea, seven which are an abomination unto Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood; a heart that deviseth wicked purposes, feet that are swift in running to mischief, a false witness that uttereth lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren (Proverbs 6:16-19).*”

The horrific events of this past week in our country highlight the things God hates. In Dallas, five law enforcement officers lost their lives “*at the hands that shed innocent blood*”. The man whose hands killed and wounded devised “*wicked purposes*” in “*his heart*”. He shed innocent blood on purpose.

He said he was upset over what had occurred earlier in Minnesota and Baton Rouge where police officers took the lives of two black men. God’s wisdom directs us to “*strive not with a man without cause, if he hath done thee no harm*” (Proverbs 3:30). The five who died, the seven officers who were wounded and the mother who took a bullet as she protected her teenage son did not personally

harm anyone, especially the one who did them harm.

The justice system immediately went into action when the lives of two black men were taken at the hands of police officers in Minnesota and Louisiana. Officers were suspended from their work as government weighs the evidence to determine guilt, punishment and fruitful justice. God appoints government as His servant to carry out His vengeance against evil (Romans 13:4). God says, “*vengeance belongeth unto Me*”, not to us (Romans 12:19). We are to give place to His wrath, administered by His authorized minister. God hates the taking of any innocent life, regardless of skin color.

Some, uniting under the mantra of “Black Lives Matter”, feel that destroying property, and looting stores are justifiable. It is just a tactic like the patriots at the Boston Tea Party used to promote change. What change? DeRay McKesson, a 30-year-old activist hired to deliver lectures for credit at Yale, writes, “*the idea of private property is just that: an idea, a tenuous and contingent structure of consent, backed up by the lethal force of the state. When ri-*

*oters take territory and loot, they are revealing precisely how, in a space without cops, property relations can be destroyed and things can be had for free.*” God allows for His people to own “private property” (Acts 4:34, 2 Corinthians 8:12-13). Some in higher schools of learning are justifying the destruction of private property for purposes deeper than racial injustice. Regardless of motive, God hates “*feet that are swift running to mischief*”.

Finally, God hates “*he that soweth discord among brethren*”. Assuming racism is systemic in law enforcement, instead of incidental, the broad brush of racism paints discord. It is shallow thinking to believe that just because you are black, you must hate whites. The same is true in assuming all whites are racists. Racism must be denounced when it looks at other individuals with a “*haughty eye*”, or when it wants to shed “*innocent blood*” of a different skin color. God hates such along with the “*lying tongue*”, sowing “*discord*” for perverse purposes.