

## **Forgive the sinner and punish the sin - urges you to love enemy MORE than yourself**

Love the sinner and hate the sin implies that you must forgive the sinner and not necessarily the sin.

Because Jesus allegedly gave himself up for others without any thought for himself, it follows that the Christian must forgive not to get rid of the grudge or the pain of being hurt or hating a person, but for the other person's sake. You dismiss and ignore the benefits for you. You forgive your enemy not to help yourself but for their sake so that you can give them the love they don't deserve.

Forgiving the sinner then implies that you put more value on them than on yourself or those who want you to be okay.

To give a person a love they don't deserve is to give them a love they don't deserve from you either and is therefore loving your neighbour MORE than yourself. It is making an effort and risking yourself for somebody that could throw it back in your face and use you.

If these things were better known and the Church were more honest, people wouldn't be fooled into thinking that the forgiving advice is good advice.

Most believers think they can and should forgive for their own sake so as not to be caught up in bitterness and fear. To forgive for that reason is really more about doing yourself a favour than loving your enemy. It contradicts loving your neighbour as yourself. Christ commanded the love of enemies.

We unbelievers just care about a person changing. We let the past go for that reason and because we believe life on earth is short and the only life we have, we don't want to bring stress into it by harbouring grudges.

Some make the mistake of saying you must judge yourself not others. You must hate your sin and forget about the sins of others and don't even judge them. The claim that it is evil to hate somebody's sin and not your own or more than your own and not evil to hate your own instead is a strange one. It smacks of self-hatred and self-hatred is no foundation for learning to love anybody. If you cannot judge another person for specific sins you can for general sins. You know that others are sinners even if you don't know what the sins are. So to hate your sins and nobody else's is self-abuse.

What if you say that you are to love others but not to think of them as sinners while you are to hate your own sins imply? It must mean that thinking of others as sinful or sinners is judgemental and judging them as committing sins even if we don't mean specific sins leads to hating. Anything that encourages hating is a form of hating itself. It is in fact a recognition that loving the sinner and hating the sin is nonsense and is sugar-coated malice but it should not be something you should inflict on yourself.

If you forgive your enemy and love him because you don't love yourself enough you are clearly asking for him to destroy you.

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## THE WEB

[www.shilohcommunitychurch.org/love\\_sinr.htm](http://www.shilohcommunitychurch.org/love_sinr.htm)

TRUE OR FALSE? GOD LOVES THE SINNER BUT HATES THE SIN, FALSE, Errol Hale

[www.ffrf.org/fitoday/back/hatred.html](http://www.ffrf.org/fitoday/back/hatred.html)

With Perfect Hatred by Dan Barker

<http://www.godhatesfags.com/>

A Baptist anti-gay site

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