

Hate Your Neighbor

--March, 29, 2009/ Sun Valley Bulletin

That is what we are hearing more and more these days. I am not talking about your local suicide bomber either.

Hate is a useful tool for grabbing political power. All you have to do is stir up a little class envy and one group will hate all other groups that seem to have more money or political power. Vladimir Lenin taught his education commissars, "We must teach our children to hate." This worked well in France as the guillotines sliced off the heads of the noblemen of French society. It worked well in the "killing fields" of Cambodia as school teachers and nurses were marked for slaughter because of their education status. Today, as we hear of corruption in the politicians as well as the officers of corporations in New York City and Washington D.C., some Americans are calling for the death of AIG executives, and one U.S. Senator has openly asked these businessmen and women to commit suicide.

The new hate-your-neighbor movement is just another phase of the works of the flesh that stain our culture. You might assume that since we are so preoccupied with lusting after our neighbors' wives, that we must be disposed more to love our neighbors than to hate them, but carnal lusting and carnal hating are really not that far apart. Rape and murder also go together sometimes. Sensuality, nakedness and all manner of extra-marital liaisons are just one step away from the anger and hatred that springs from envy and jealousy one experiences when he cannot have what he wants. When personal wants are our gods, our frustrations push us to lash out at all that gets in our way; and death to everyone that dares to stand in the way! Do you think that you would never do such a thing as that? Think again. If you are weak toward sins of sensuality, you are just a step away from the sins of envy, hate, and murder. In Galatians 5:19, the works of the flesh are "**Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders**, drunkenness, revellings, and such like..."

Jesus saves us from the tyranny of envy, hate, and the lusts of the flesh; those gods of this world that blind our eyes with selfish passion. Jesus shows us the beauty of self-control, self-discipline, self-sacrifice, and the noble love that loves another more than self. tp