

But he was put in to room with a senior, a man who was outwardly very friendly and friendly to every member of the faculty, a quite a bright chap, but when you'd get to talk with him you would find that the fundamentalists were just trying to push the church into a straight jacket; they were trying to force us into a mold, and we must not let the fundamentalists get control of our churches. He did not say much outside, but he talked in his room to this young fellow. I remember after about 6 or 8 months one day talking to this young fellow, and I was amazed at the spirit of bitterness and hatred toward those great scholars who were defenders of the faith on the faculty; the men in the church who were trying to make a stand against modernism. He had just filled his mind and been brainwashed with a spirit of hatred. That of course is utterly un-Christian, utterly wrong and Jesus speaks against this spirit in very strong language.

The hatred we have toward those who despitefully use us is not the hatred that is spoken of anywhere in the Imprecatory Psalms. Jesus says, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that despitefully use you and pray for them that persecute you." These are hard verses to really follow from the heart. It is very very hard for us to adopt the attitude that no matter what they do to me, I'm still going to pray for them. I don't like those personal things that man does to me, the wickedness he shows in his relation to me. I'm still to pray for him and be kind to him. This hatred which it is so easy for us to fall into, Jesus Christ condemns with the strongest language. And we need to think about this hatred to see how easy it is for it to blossom up in the hearts of any one of us, who truly are followers of Christ. We must root it out; we must get rid of it.

Yet there is another hatred in the Scripture, another hatred which is on a different level. If it wasn't we would not find this 139th Psalm and other Psalms having the statements they have. Let's look again at this statement in the 139th Psalm. After all these beautiful statements about God's knowledge and God's truth, then he says, vv.19ff. "Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God." Isn't that awful to think about God slaying the wicked? Isn't it terrible to think of anybody dying, anybody being slain? Why the whole attitude in our country today is, No matter how many murders a man has committed, we must remember he probably wasn't treated just right.