

## A Healthy Hatred

**1Peter 5:8-9 “Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.”**

A family put their baby down for a nap. The loving mother opened the window for her baby to rest. The wind was gently flapping the cute cotton curtains. Then a rattlesnake slithered into the child's crib, and struck the baby time after time. The baby died, and the mother came in to find the rattlesnake warmly curled by her child who was killed in cold blood. At that moment she said that all of her hate was directed toward this rattlesnake.

So many of us comfortably choose to make our bed with a different kind of snake, that's much more deadly. It's that serpent of old that slithered into the Garden of Eden, and said to Eve, "Did God really say?...".

I cringed as James Robinson related this story, but I need to cringe more. I personally need to hate sin as much as that mother hated that rattlesnake.

We get so mad at this story, but when it comes to daily life we can let Satan creep into our house by being passive enough to "Google" anything we want unchecked or unaccountable. And life seems much easier when we let that teen go to their room and text anybody they want, and play mature rated video games that are not fit for anyone. But we as adults could easily blame the kids, but this serpent has already injected us with the venom of busyness to discombobulate and compromise our principles and priorities.

Would you agree with me in prayer, "God, give us your hate for sin. Help us use all our authority and freedom in Christ to recognize and resist the Enemy. In Jesus name. Amen."