

# Ray E D W A R D S

## Ray Edwards Show, Episode 439

### Love Your Haters

**[00:00:00] Announcer:** It's Friday, February 7th and this is the Daily Ray.

**[00:00:07] Ray:** Today's topic for the Daily Ray is about the haters. We're back to haters. I struck a nerve with this. I got lots of questions from people both publicly and through DM about, "How do you deal with people who are hating on you on social media?" First of all, if you're not making any impact, if you're not getting out your message anywhere, you won't get any haters. If you don't want to get anybody who's critiquing, you or criticizing you or defaming you then just don't do anything or say anything or do anything of significance. You won't have that problem.

If you're going to get your message out to anybody though, if you're going to get your message out to the world and your message matters, just remember this, all-powerful communication offends somebody. Some people will make it their mission to persecute you for speaking the truth. It's just how it works. They did it to Jesus. Don't expect any better treatment than he got. The question is not whether or not people are going to be your detractors, be your persecutors, be your haters.

There's varying degrees. There's frenemies. These are people who are like your friends, but they keep saying critical things about you and you wonder, "Why would a friend do that to me?" That's a good question to ask. I'd pursue that with them. Just asked them and say, "What makes you think it's okay to say that through their responses? Maybe they haven't thought it through." There's frenemies. There's friends who support you and there's enemies.

They're not really our enemies. Our ultimate enemy is not a human being because human beings who think they are our enemies are deceived. They're deceived. We have to remember this. We have to remember-- We don't have to, but I recommend that you do this. The proper response to haters, real haters, who are really just spitting viperous hate out on you or persecuting you needlessly, unjustly, like, you wonder, "Do they have anything else in their life to do? The answer is, "No, they don't." The proper response to hate is compassion. Think about it. If a person's time and energy is spent writing up posts that are about you or about your content, about how terrible it is, that is a sad, pathetic existence. There's something deeply wrong with that person. Something deeply missing in their life. It's a cry for help.

It doesn't mean you're responsible for helping them. Just because somebody had an idea, they wanted to persecute you does not mean you have to respond with helping them, but it does mean that our proper response is compassion. Compassion to think, "Well, this human being is so broken, this is the only way they can think of to connect with another human being." The only way they can think of to connect with another human being is through persecution, hate, hateful speech, trying to cause trouble, trying to be a thorn in your side. Remember this. They think they're doing the right thing. Nobody wakes up in the morning and says, "I'm going to be a villain today. I'm going to be a terrible, horrible person and do something awful."

They may even be thinking, "I don't like to do this, but I have to. It's what right." The reason I don't critique people when I see things online that bother me, that anger me, that get under my skin, I don't talk about those things. Why? Because it does nobody any good. It doesn't do any good for the person who's saying those things. It's only going to reinforce their position. It doesn't do any bit of good who follows those people because they already believe that position. It doesn't do any good to people who believe what I believe because we already believe the same thing. The only reason for me to write about or spend time on focusing on my content, things that I don't agree with are incorrect reasons. They're illogical.

What is logical, what makes sense, what is indicative of a whole person is to concentrate on your message not on somebody else's. You have a message to carry, you have a point to make, you have something that you're supposed to bring to the world. Focus on that and don't be bothered by the haters. I know it's easy to say and harder to do. In the book of Nehemiah, Nehemiah has brought the people of Israel back to the city to rebuild the walls of the city and his enemies-- I'm just paraphrasing so if I get some of this wrong, please forgive me. Their enemies come and try to distract them. They want Nehemiah and his people to come down and have a council with them. They say, "Come down from the wall and talk to us. We got things to talk with you about. You're not doing the right things."

Nehemiah's response is to look down and say, "Why should I come down there and talk with you? I have important work that I'm doing. I'm going to focus on what God gave me to do." It's also worth noting that Nehemiah's men as they're reconstructing the wall, they took the tools of their trade to reconstruct the wall with them and they also wore their swords at their side to fight off the enemy. We don't use swords these days to fight our enemy. We have a different sword. We have this sword right here. The Word of God is our sword. The Spirit of God is our protector. It's a perfect sword and perfect protector.

If you have haters who are trying to distract you from your mission, first of all, concentrate on your message not theirs. For God's sake, don't give them a platform. This is a mistake I see people make a lot. Somebody starts campaigns, some kind of vindictive campaign against you online and you spend all your time defending yourself on your platform. You know what you're doing? You're just exposing your people to their message. Don't do that. Don't give them an ounce of daylight from your platform. Don't give them any more amplification than they deserve, which is zero. Just don't do it. That's what they want you to do. Do not engage with them.

Carry the tools of your trade, something we're learning about here at sacred work in Nehemiah 6. Is it Nehemiah six? Lou, you're the man. It says, "Now when Sanballat

and Tobiah and Geshem the Arab and the rest of our enemies heard that I had built the wall and that there was no breach left in it. I looked at that time I had not set up the doors and the gates. Sanballat and Geshem sent to me saying "Come and meet with together at Hahkiphirem in the plain of Ono, but they intended to do me harm." This is what your enemies want. They want to get you to come talk to them so they could do you harm.

I sent messages to them saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you? They said to me four times in this way and I answered them in the same manner." This is your proper response to your haters who are trying to distract you from your mission. Do not. How do we handoff the hater that's standing in front of us? You step around them. If they're physically confronting you, obviously you have to deal with that. But that does not mean you give them a platform. "Sanballat, oh messy self." Diana, you make me laugh. You step around them.

There's a saying of the Buddha who said, "When someone offers you hate, do not accept it. When someone offers you angers, do not accept it. If I offer you a gift, and you don't accept it, to whom does it belong? Let the hate and the anger belong to your hater. Don't let it belong to you." Jesus talked clearly on this. He said, "Pray for those who persecute you. Bless those who hate you." He showed us how to do that. "What if they own the platform?" I don't even understand that. They don't own your platform. If they own the platform, get off their platform. Simple. Build your own platform. I've obviously stimulated some discussions, lots of questions about this. For those of you on Facebook, YouTube and Periscope, I have to read your comments upside down. please forgive me for taking too long to answer.

When you say they own the platform, what platform are we discussing? Yes, Lou. Nehemiah. Buddha, Jesus it's all here on Live at Five with Ray. That's absolutely right.

[laughs]

If you have other questions, I'm really interested in this question about, "What if they own the platform?" I'm not sure what you're talking about there. Somebody let me know what you're thinking about that. What situation you're talking about? If you can tell me the details, I'd love to know because I'll have an answer for you. The bottom line is, do not give them your platform as a place for them to spread their message of evil and hate. Do not pay attention to them. Do not come down from the wall and stop your important work to give your time, energy, and spirit to the haters. That's exactly what your enemy wants you to do.

I don't mean just your earthly person who thinks they're your enemy. I'm talking about Satan, your actual enemy.

"The platform I was referring to is our job, an opportunity to connect with others in ways that build community. We can come across those who feel like is not a good way to spend time." That is a platform that is under somebody else's control. If you work for somebody else, you're under their power, you're under their authority, and you've placed yourself under their authority, so you have to respect it. If you feel that their authority is violating your mission, then you have to leave their authority. In other words, quit the dang job.

"They control the people and they control the opportunity, the platform to spread good news is constrained, it could be completely ignored or stepped around." Yes, but here's what cannot be constrained, other platforms. Right now, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn, Periscope, all these platforms are free for us to do what we want to. Someone will argue and say, "Well, Facebook doesn't want you to say this or that."

Then move to a different platform. There's always a new platform. You can stream directly from your website if you want to. The internet has about 3 billion people on it, you can reach people. God will help you find the audience; He'll help the audience find you that needs to hear you.

Jenny, you're right. It could be Satan. Yes, it's evil. Don't be discouraged. If they own the platform, you own your own platform. You are your own platform. Listen, your message will make a way for itself because your message comes from the ultimate source of all good messages, which is God. His message cannot be stopped. You can't bargain with it, you can't reason with it, you can't escape it. It's like the *Terminator* of goodness. Many people have joined since we started. I'm just going to give a quick summary one more time on what the message is today, and then I get it moving because I got to get moving because I got to talk to give. I was going to say a speech, but I don't give speeches. I give talks. I have conversations with audiences.

The summary of today is, if you have haters who are persecuting, slandering, libeling you online, what is the proper response? The proper response as Christians, I believe, is compassion, love, because there's something wounded in the person who does that. Think about this one more time. Anybody who spends their time and energy tearing down somebody else's message online, how sad do you have to be? How pathetic do you have to be to spend your time doing that? That person is to be pitied and loved. Pray for them. It doesn't mean you have to devote your time to them. Again, be aware of the enemy distracting you from your message, from your mission. Don't let that happen. Be like Nehemiah on the wall when the enemies came to try to get him to come down and counsel with them so they could distract him from his work he's supposed to be doing. He said, "I'm up here doing an important work, why should I come down there and talk to you?" That has to be your response to your haters. Love them, pray for them, bless them then forget them, and move on. Do what you're supposed to be doing. Don't do what the enemy is trying to get you to do. Do what God told you to do.

Today is the day I speak at the Bethel Church Heaven in Business event. Heard Bill Johnson and Andy Mason speak yesterday, they're both fantastic. Met some great people yesterday. Our friend David Robertson is here. Our friend Steve Curty and his wife, Deborah Lynn are here. Love the people I see here that I know. I don't know the new people. CJ says, "If they are frenemies who chat up with you online, do you delete them as friends?" Yes. Because that's not saying, "I don't care for this person anymore. I don't love them." It's saying, "I'm not connected to them on social freaking media anymore." I'm just not going to let people occupy my channel with the message of the enemy. Bill Johnson once said, "The only reason I listen to what the enemy is saying is, so I know what station to mute, what station to tune out. I want to know what frequency to stop listening to." Stop giving them an input into your head. Don't let those people rent space in your head.

Today's experiment at the Bethel event will be-- I have about an hour I think to talk. I'm going to give about a 10-minute talk. I have some points I want to make. Then I'm going to just do Q&A because I have this deep belief that the mission of a speaker is to give the audience exactly what they need. The only way to give them exactly what they need is to just ask them, "What do you need?" Then give it to them [chuckles] instead of pontificating what you think they need. That's my theory anyway, I'll let you know how that goes. Maybe that won't work out so well, but we'll find out today.

Some people say, "Well, you don't just want to prepare." Believe me you have to be more prepared for Q&A than you do for a speech you're giving. It's much easier to give a pre-canned presentation that has no chance of you forgetting part of it or not knowing part of it. It's much riskier to say, "I'll help you any way I can. What do you need?" That's the experiment today. I'll let you know how it goes. Oh, yes, I'm pretty sure it will be live-streamed. If Bethel is not live streaming it, I'll stream it from my page if they let me. Be sure and check on the page. I speak at 11:00 Pacific. I will try to do my best to make sure it's streamed for you on this here page. Good question, Lou. Thank you.

All right, that's it. I'm done for the day. I'm going to pray for you. Lord, I pray that you would bless these friends, these souls, these companions on the journey. I pray that you give them a revelation of your grace, your goodness. I pray that you would bless them with joy, for no reason, that you do more than they can ask or think or even imagine. In Jesus's name. Amen. Thanks, guys. We'll be back tomorrow at 5:00 AM Pacific. Remember this, I love you very much and not in a weird way. Bye.

**[00:13:01] Announcer:** The Daily Ray, live weekday mornings at 5:00 AM Pacific, on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and more. For more information log on to [rayedwards.com](http://rayedwards.com)

**[00:13:14] [END OF AUDIO]**