

Trojan horse

Don't judge a book by its cover. All that glitters is not gold.
The enemy I see, wears a cloak of decency. (Bob Dylan)
Sanctity of appearance, conceals the love of sin. (Ellen White)
A monkey in silk, is a monkey no less. (Rodriguez)

What am I trying to say? That the greatest threat can be masked by its very appearance. We all know the story of the Trojan horse where soldiers were hidden within a huge wooden horse. The people of the besieged city, liked the horse and brought it within the gates of the city. When night fell, the enemy soldiers came out from the concealed compartment, opened the gates of the city, and allowed their fellow soldiers to come in and take control of the city.

There are many such practices at work in the electronic mail environment today, where people are duped into accepting hazardous mail; which makes them vulnerable to all kinds of abuse. I'm not the brightest bulb in the flowerbed, but I have read enough scripture to realise, that what is being taught in most churches is just not relevant.

Why do people worship on a Sunday? Millions died in the Reformation, taking a stand against the Pope; who declared Sunday as the preferred day of worship. Before sin was in the World God sanctified the seventh day, Saturday; for rest and fellowship with Him. I have been resting, reading my Bible and going to church on a Saturday for a while now, and I can testify, that the blessings are real. The weekend now feels three times longer than it used to be! This isn't merely a religious practice, but one of obedience to God. We get up later than on a weekday, we have a leisurely breakfast, go to church, have lunch, and spend a few hours in the afternoon reading the Bible. One needs to take a break from the hectic lifestyle, so why not do it on the day that God said we should, Saturday, the Sabbath Day.

By keeping Sunday as your day of rest, you declare publicly, that the Popes word is greater than God's Word. This is also breaking God's 4th Commandment. The Catholic Church dresses itself in luxury and tradition; just like the pharisees of the day when Jesus preached to the people. We know how much John the Baptist and Jesus rebuked these church clergymen. The person who looks to these people, is bluffed by the exterior appearance; thinking, if the outside looks good, they must be good. The best place to conceal a wolf is among the sheep. This is where we find the most wicked deceptions against God's Church. You hear people complain about drinking and smoking, rock music and junk food. They may lead to an earlier physical death, but ignorance of scripture will lead to a spiritual death and eternal damnation. Which is the worst consequence? People concentrate on the little errors of the flesh, instead of the grand deception of scriptural ignorance. Penny wise - but Pound foolish, as we used to say.

I have come across a number of Old Testament scriptures which testify as the New Testament. The difference between the Old and New Testaments is that since Jesus died for our sins on the cross, and there is no need for blood sacrifices anymore. Jesus is now our High Priest, and is 'The Only Person' between God the Father and ourselves.

We have no earthly intercessor, as our High Priest dwells with Father God, in the Heavenly Sanctuary. A person may pray with us, or for us, but they cannot intercede between God and ourselves, that role is fulfilled only by Jesus Christ our High Priest.

Here are a few Old Testament scriptures which also indicate the New Testament teaching. I feel God has been giving mankind the same message since the very beginning, choose life and not death. Everything which has been done to achieve our Salvation has been done by God, we just have to accept it and live it, by faith.

Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Gen 2:15-17)

"Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man." (Gen 9:5)

"And as for you, remain outside the camp seven days; whoever has killed any person, and whoever has touched any slain, purify yourselves and your captives on the third day and on the seventh day. Purify every garment, everything made of leather, everything woven of goats' hair, and everything made of wood." Then Eleazar the priest said to the men of war who had gone to the battle, "This is the ordinance of the law which the Lord commanded Moses: Only the gold, the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead, everything that can endure fire, you shall put through the fire, and it shall be clean; and it shall be purified with the water of purification. But all that cannot endure fire you shall put through water. And you shall wash your clothes on the seventh day and be clean, and afterward you may come into the camp." (Num 31:19-24)

"And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. Also the Lord your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. And you will again obey the voice of the Lord and do all His commandments which I command you today. The Lord your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the Lord will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deu 30:6-10)

"I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them." (Deu 30:19-20)

Now the spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded. And he went out to meet Asa, and said to him: "Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The Lord is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you;

but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law; but when in their trouble they turned to the Lord God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them. And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands. So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity. But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!" (2Ch 15:1-7)

For evil doers shall be cut off; but those who wait on the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; indeed you will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more. But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. The wicked plots against the just, and gnashes at him with his teeth. The Lord laughs at him, for He sees that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn the sword and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, to slay those who are of upright conduct. Their sword shall enter their own heart, and their bows shall be broken. (Psa 37:9-15)

Mark the blameless man, and observe the upright; for the future of that man is peace. But the transgressors shall be destroyed together; the future of the wicked shall be cut off. But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him. (Psa 37:37-40)

Thus says God the Lord, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it: "I, the Lord, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house. I am the Lord, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." (Isa 42:5-9)

But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in your place. Since you were precious in My sight, you have been honored, and I have loved you; therefore I will give men for you, and people for your life. (Isa 43:1-4)

"I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins. Put Me in remembrance; let us contend together; state your case, that you may be acquitted. (Isa 43:25)

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