

“MAKETH AND LOVETH A LIE”

"Keep off from Satan's enchanted ground and not allow your minds to be swayed from allegiance to God. Through Christ you may and should be happy and should acquire habits of self-control. Even your thoughts must be brought into subjection to the will of God and your feelings under the control of reason and religion. Your imagination was not given you to be allowed to run riot and have its own way without any effort at restraint or discipline. If the thoughts are wrong the feelings will be wrong, and the thoughts and feelings combined make up the moral character. When you decide that as Christians you are not required to restrain your thoughts and feelings you are brought under the influence of evil angels and invite their presence and their control."-5 Testimonies, 310:1.

"Some will be tempted to receive these wonders as from God, The sick will be healed before us. Miracles will be performed in our sight. Are we prepared for the trial which awaits us when the lying wonders of Satan shall be more fully exhibited? Will not many souls be ensnared and taken? By departing from the plain precepts and commandments of God, and giving heed to fables, the minds of many are preparing to receive these lying wonders. We must all now seek to arm ourselves for the contest in which we must soon engage. Faith In God's word, prayerfully studied and practically applied, will be our shield from Satan's power and will bring us off conquerors through the blood of Christ." -Maranatha, 208:6

"Satan is determined to keep up the warfare to the end. Coming as an angel of light, claiming to be the Christ, he will deceive the world. But his triumph will be short. No storm or tempest can move those whose feet are planted on the principles of eternal truth. They will be able to stand in this time of almost universal apostasy,"-6 Bible Commentary, 1106/2:1.

Will you be prepared to stand up and declare that this beautiful being with the pleasing voice and angelic brilliance — is none other than Satan?

I'll give you a clue – are you doing it now? When people come to you with sweet-sentimental stuff and when you look at it, you see it is falsehood and fantasy, or spiritualism is interwoven in it; do you accept it and say “Oh, isn't that nice, isn't that cute.”? Or do you speak up firmly, yet kindly and say, “This is not true, it is misleading. It is dangerous.”

When you find or are shown something in inspired counsel that crosses your path and you see it calls for a change in your deportment and habits, do you accept the rebuke, repent and pray for Jesus' power to make the change in you the information requires? Or do you find yourself saying, “Oh, well, no-body's perfect. God understands, He is not so nit-picky as all that. Others do this; I am just as good as they are. God takes into consideration that I have a problem with this. God doesn't expect me to give up all my fun and enjoyment. God won't keep me out of heaven for a little thing like this. Only legalistic fanatics believe we have to obey ALL these things.”

I could go on and on, couldn't I?

And what happens when you are with a group and they are all cooing and exalting the latest piece of sentimentalism being circulated, and somebody speaks up and does warn that this is untrue and dangerous?

Do you join in with the group who denounce this person as an 'old stick-in-the-mud', or a 'nit-picking old Grinch' or a 'legalistic fanatic', and begin to pontificate on how 'God does not expect us to be solemn and serious all the time', and 'There is no harm in a little untrue story, you are not supposed to take it seriously, it is just a cute thing and there is no harm in a bit of fun and imagination.'

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Think about it – think long and hard, because you will not find any of this backed up by the Bible.

So what if the thing is cute, and attractive and appeals to the emotions and sentiments? What would you think of a person, who wanted to trap a mouse, and so he went and found out what mice really hate and will not go near, and he used that for to bait his trap? Would you not think him a fool? Well, Satan is no fool, and he specializes in controlling us by manipulating our feelings!

"Satan comes down as a beautiful angel, and presents lovely pictures before the eyes of those who have so perverted their ways before God that they do not see what they are, or know what they need. The enemy has come down with great power, to work with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish,"-Letter 259, 1909, pp. 5-6. (To "Dear Sister Hall," November 29, 1909).

"Go to God for yourselves, pray for divine enlightenment, that you may know that you do know what is truth, that when the wonderful miracle-working power shall be displayed, and the enemy shall come as an angel of light, you may distinguish between the genuine work of God and the imitative work of the powers of darkness." -3 Selected Messages, 389:4.

If you have been in the habit of reasoning away, and explaining away, and rationalizing away the Words of Inspiration, what will you stand on then?

If you have been going along with the crowd and denouncing the few you run into who choose to stand solid on the Word, will you not just automatically go along with the crowd then, rather than stand alone declaring, "This is Satan!" to a crowd declaring, "This is the great power of God"?

God Promises Deliverance from the Hour of Temptation. - "There are severe trials before every one of us, yet we need not fail. In the hour of temptation Christ will not leave His children, but will send His angels to minister unto them. He will answer their prayers for deliverance. .

If We Will Grasp the Power that Christ Offers.- "Satan knows that his time is short, and he will put forth every effort in his power to destroy our faith in God and in His Word. . But if we will grasp the power that Christ offers, seeking the Lord diligently, and watching unto prayer, we shall have all power and wisdom to meet the attacks of the enemy."

The Time Has Come to Take Our Stand Positively on Christ's Side. - "Many of our people do not seem to realize that the time has come for everyone to take his stand positively on the side of Jesus Christ and the heavenly angels. By their indifference, by carelessness in word and act, they leave themselves open to the molding influence of the enemy. They seem asleep as regards the issues that are now before the world." *Manuscript 35, 1908, pp. 2, 3, 6-8, 11, 12. ("Conflict and Victory," a sermon preached in Oakland, California, March 7, 1908).*