

Sin In Disguise

Rom. 7:11-13

Introduction:

- A. We have little trouble **defining** sin. (cf. 1 John 3:4; 5:17).
- B. We have more trouble **identifying** sin - does not always appear as sin. (vv. 11, 13)
 - 1. Murder may appear to be service to God. (John 16:2).
 - 2. Iniquity (lawlessness) may appear to be “wonderful works” (Matt. 7:21-23)
- C. We need to look at some other ways that sin can be disguised as good:

Discussion:

- I. Lust Often Masquerades as Love.**
 - A. Biblical love is natural and beautiful. (1 Cor. 7 cf. Abraham & Sarah, Jacob & Rachel, Joseph & Mary).
 - B. Lust is ugly and unnatural. (cf. Rom. 1:26,27—David & Bathsheba.)
- II. Laziness, Procrastination, And/Or Cowardice Often Masquerades as Caution and Wisdom.**
 - A. Caution is needed. (1 Cor. 10:12; Heb. 3:12).
 - B. Laziness often disguised as caution. (Matt. 25:25,26; Prov. 26:13-14).
- III. Covetousness Often Masquerades as Stewardship.**
 - A. Christians are to be good stewards, not wasteful. (cf. Luke 15:13).
 - B. Christians are not to be greedy or misers. (Col. 3:5; Rich Fool).
- IV. Contentiousness Often Masquerades as “Contending for the Faith”.**
 - A. Christians are to contend for faith. (Jude 3).
 - B. Christians are not to just be contentious. (2 Tim. 2:14, 23-26).
- V. Permissiveness Often Masquerades as Longsuffering.**
 - A. Are to be longsuffering and forbearing. (Eph. 4:3).
 - B. Are not to be permissive. (2 Tim. 4:1-4; Eph. 5:11)
- VI. Vengeance Often Masquerades as Discipline.**
 - A. Discipline is needed in home, society and church.
 - B. Christians are not to take vengeance. (Rom. 12:19-21).
- VII. Self-Will Often Masquerades as Conviction.**
 - A. Must have strong convictions. (Eph. 6:10-20).
 - B. Must not be self-willed. (2 Pet. 2:10; Tit. 1:17) —Easy to confuse the two.
- VIII. Meddling Often Masquerades as Concern.**
 - A. Need to be concerned and watchful toward brethren.
 - B. Must not be busybodies. (2 Thess. 3:11; 1 Pet. 4:15).

Conclusion:

- A. Let us be aware of the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 3:13).
- B. Let us be honest with ourselves — do harbor sin under another name.