

**John # 110 “This Is A Hard Teaching”**

***John 6:49-60; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:3-4; Exodus 16***

**It is the primary policy of Satan to discredit God’s Good News Gospel.**

The Greek word for veiled means to obscure or cloud its meaning and as a part of the pre-historic angelic dispute, Satan is obscuring the Gospel of Jesus Christ because the last thing he wants is a clear presentation of God’s gracious saving work heard and understood by anyone.

*The passive voice here tells us that Satan has a pre-conceived plan for obscuring the Gospel; he does it through legalism in his subject’s lives by way of hypocrisy, mental attitude sins and religion as there are many ways in which a person can be side-tracked as far as God’s grace-motivated Gospel is concerned.*

**Satan must get to unbelievers before they find God somehow, so he’s determined that his best option is to blind their minds with falsehoods and pie-in-the-sky schemes which lead to pseudo-happiness.**

Satan seeks to cloud their thoughts, blinding them by veiling their thinking with obscurity so when they hear the Gospel, it comes to their souls with outside interference or static which naturally produces a negative reaction resulting in the formation of scar tissue of the soul; the beginning of the process of soul arterial sclerosis known as hardness of heart.

*So, there is definite outward opposition to witnessing from Satan who reaches into the thoughts of all unbelievers with his lies.*

**Like it or not, we are all Christian soldiers and some of us are in basic training, others in AIT, Advanced Individual Training and others have graduated bootcamp and specialized training and are out in the field of battle and so, how do we handle that?**

**Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

***2<sup>nd</sup> Thess 3:3 But the Lord is faithful and He will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.***

**Eph 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.**

**For men to think that they can facilitate or negotiate world peace now; something only the Lord Jesus can accomplish in the Millennium, is incredibly arrogant as it shows complete disregard for what the Bible teaches.**

**War is inevitable as Jesus Christ Himself declared.**

***Only when our Lord returns at His Second Advent will He establish world peace.***

**So, until our Lord’s return, nations will continue to do battle in this world and what peace we do have, however widespread or lengthy, will be the result of a strong, highly prepared military force in place.**

**War was declared by God in Heaven when Lucifer became His arch- enemy and one third of all angels went AWOL from God's troops and enlisted in the enemy's forces.**

All the wars we experience on earth are the result of the first war; the angelic dispute between God and Satan and so, not only did this battle pre-exist man's creation but so did two opposing absolutes: biblical truth and evil.

*Biblical truth is the mind of Christ which is eternal and it expresses God's grace policy for man.*

But evil was born at the fall of the most beautiful, most intelligent angel, Lucifer and it will finally end with God's final judgment of His adversary, Satan.

**Evil not only involves sin but actually is more than sin; it includes human good and every attempt to solve man's problems apart from God and His Word**

And that means that religion and legalism are highly evil simply because they are a part of Satan's world system!

*Faith alone in Jesus Christ alone made all of us members of the Royal Family of God with extensive privileges on the one hand and many responsibilities on the other.*

We are responsible to take in the mind of Christ daily as only God's Word will insulate us from Satan's evil.

**Satan knows how to appeal to man's ego and feed his selfish pride.**

His demons and his human pawns are located in all major cities of the world where they constantly influence rulers in satanic policy.

*Only the mind of Christ can guard us from self-destruction and actually change historical trends, correct the deepest of evils and reverse apostasy!*

The greatest Bible Teacher of all time has presented His case in the most lucid way possible and these people respond with; "This is a hard teaching, who can accept it?"

**In contrast, the Lord Jesus says "I am (lit. I keep on being) the Bread of Life; Eat of Me (express faith in Me, My Work and My Words) and you'll live forever!"**

Manna came down from Heaven every day but it didn't *Exodus 16:4-5, 22-27.*

*God provided free food (manna) every day for a generation that rebelled against Him and rejected His Savior.*

Living grace support is beyond propitiation.

God has always demanded that His people follow His instructions whether or not they

make sense to them.

**Those who gathered much had no more than those who gathered little; Exodus 16:16-18.**

**All believers live their own lives before their Lord.**

No two believers have reached the same stage of spiritual growth due to their different levels of capacity.

***Manna spoiled but it didn't spoil!***

Believers cannot cram biblical truth and say things like "I graduated from Bible school 10 years ago, so I'm all set."

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**1st Cor 2:5 "...so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom but on God's power."**

**2nd Cor 5:7 "For we live by faith, not by sight."**

**Manna spoiled if it was kept overnight, yet it was preserved for hundreds of years.**

Thank God that the failure of the Exodus generation did not disallow us from an opportunity to succeed!

***Manna melted but it didn't melt; Exodus 16:21***

Only that manna which was brought inside was preserved and used for nourishment.

This represents biblical truth in the soul of the believer.

**We cannot apply what we do not know.**