

DEVICE 2: PAINTING SIN WITH THE COLORS OF VIRTUE

Satan presents sin to us by concealing its true colors. He paints it over with the colors of virtuousness. He does this to more easily deceive us and causing us to desire the sin more. He calls the sin of pride ... neatness and cleanliness. He calls covetousness, good business sense. Drunkenness, he labels as good fellowship. Wild and senseless riotousness, he calls liberality. Wantonness, he calls youthful behavior.

Remedy 1 – Never think of any sin as anything but filthy, vile, and abominable [Proverbs 8:13]. No matter how honorable a label Satan has given it, don't believe it. A poisonous pill can come in a candy shell. A sheep's skin covering a wolf, won't make it harmless. The devil may appear as an angel of light, but he is still evil. Likewise, sin is sin, no matter how rewarding it appears.

Remedy 2 – Sugar coating sin, by making it look like a virtue, makes it more dangerous to the human soul [Isaiah 5:20].

Remedy 3 – When you die all your sins will be exposed [Revelation 20:12]. Their ugliness will become clear. What appeared delightful to you while still alive on earth, will be shown to be dreadful. Beware.

Remedy 4 – You need to take this seriously. Even those sins with the most virtuous colors, and sugar coatings, cost Jesus His blood that He shed on the cross. Your sins cost Jesus His life. So, take revenge on your own sins, by not continuing to walk in those sins.

Questions

1. How does Satan make sin look appealing?
2. When will the true nature of sin be revealed beyond the shadow of any doubt?
3. How can we "take revenge on sin"?

¹³ The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. Proverbs 8:13 (ESV)

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Isaiah 5:20 (ESV)

¹² And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. Revelation 20:12 (ESV)

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. Colossians 3:5–6 (ESV)