

Loving and Making a Lie

Harmony M.B.C., September 20, 2009 (Morning)

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Rev 21:9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof.

Rev 21:24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

Rev 21:25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

Rev 21:26 And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it.

Rev 21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or ***maketh a lie***: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Rev 22:12 **And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**

Rev 22:13 **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.**

Rev 22:14 Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Rev 22:15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and **whosoever loveth and maketh a lie**.

Rev 22:16 **I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.**

Although we are going to consider only part of this large bible text this morning, I have read all these verses because I want everyone to understand what this city the which the Lord is writing about. Although this is not a message on eschatology (the study of end time events; especially death and the final judgment), I wanted everyone to realize what the city spoken of by the heavenly messenger and by Jesus was. As you can see from the reading, the heavenly messenger is showing John the bride, the Lamb's wife. Some bible scholars try to disconnect this revelation from any association with the Lord's church, but if we by the help of the Holy Spirit simply connect such critical bible teachings as those in Ephesians Ch. 5 and in 2 Corinthians 11:2 with these verses, it is easy to understand that the Lamb's bride or wife is His church. That being said, we can then understand that the Holy City, the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven is the Lord's church. But, I won't focus on that this morning.

What I do want us to focus on is the list of those who will have no part in the eternal privilege of being in the presence of God and Christ; of enjoying the blessings of eternal rest. More than that, I want us to focus on one type of character in that list; those who love and make a lie.

In the last few weeks we have heard a lot in the news about lying. People in high positions have been pointing out the lying that is going on by national leaders. Those national leaders have been saying that those exposing the alleged lies are lying themselves. The problem with people making such accusations today is that there is so much broadcasting of what has been said by leaders, that we don't have to take anybody's word for who is lying and who is not. We can go back in the news archive and hear what everyone has said, and then decide for ourselves whether those accused were actually lying. If any of you have done that, then you have undoubtedly found that those being accused of lying about political things really have been lying, and those who are saying that they are lying then, are not lying. This is the sad truth of the day. But it provides a great opener for a message from the Lord; like we find here in Revelation, about liars and lying. We are going to consider only two points from our text this morning. That is:

I. The Profile of These Lying Characters and The Lies They Make and Love (using two real examples)

- This is not a description, or separating out of everyone who has ever told a lie
- It is not about those of you who are saved and fall into temptation and tell a lie in your weakness
- The characters profiled here have two identifying features which revolve around lying: they LOVE a lie; and they MAKE a lie (I want to look at these two features in reverse order)
- MAKE A LIE: (“maketh” = Gr. Poieo; pronounced poy-eh'-o): used 576 times in N.T. Uses:
 - > John used it (Mat. 3) to warn the Jews who came to his baptism to “bring forth” (or produce) fruits which showed repentance (So, we can get a grammatical image of someone who makes a lie as being someone with whom a lie is a product)
 - > Jesus used it (Mat. 4) to explain to Peter and Andrew how He was going to shape them into fishers of men (So, we can get a grammatical image of someone shaping and giving form to a lie)
- The implication from the use of this word in our text is that the character of these who make a lie is this: they give substance to a lie...that is they “grow” a lie into a production. It is not just a standalone falsehood, but a lie that creates a false reality; a lie that is perpetuated and from which tentacles of lying grow.
 - > Another illustration of a fuller meaning of “making a lie”:
 - I take you to a lot outside of town, point to the center of the lot and say, “there is a house I built that can be lived in.” You look at the blank spot I am pointing to and say, “I don't see a house.” What I have just done is to **tell a lie**. I take you to another lot, we get out of the car, I have built the front and two sides of a house out of cardboard and have painted and decorated it to look exactly like a house. I say, “there is a house I have built that can be lived in.” It looks like a house to be lived in at first glance. If you don't examine it carefully, if you don't try to go inside it, you would be tempted to say, “Nice house!” What I have done in this case is **make a lie**. That is the difference between the two.

TWO EXAMPLES:

- The first lie to be told on earth can be used as a classic example of making a lie: Genesis 3:4-5:
 - > The wording of “shalt not surely die,” has the lie in it that it was not an absolute

conclusion that they would die; that even in the experience they went through they would not actually cease to live as human beings. This established a false reality in Eve. It was a cardboard house.

- > The wording in v.5 - “For **God doth know** that in the day ye eat thereof, then your **eyes shall be opened**, and ye shall **be as gods, knowing good and evil**” had an element of truth in it (God DID know; their eyes WOULD be opened to know both good and evil; they WOULD be as gods as far as in that, in point of knowledge, they would know some things they did not at this point know. However, in point of morality, they would be like Satan, having been disobedient and having the sad and tragic knowledge that they had disobeyed their Creator). It was a cardboard house!
- > Examination of the lie:
 - It had elements of truth, but since it was smithed to hide unadulterated truth and to present an alternate and false reality, it was “making a lie” in the sense of our sermon text.
- A modern day example of making a lie is found in a fundamental precept of socialism, articulated by E. Belfort Bax in the 19th century: “Seek ye first a true society and its righteousness and all other things shall be added unto you.”
 - > To understand what this statement is suggesting, we need to understand what socialism is. In brief, it is an economic and political philosophy that holds that all members of a society should equal in every way; financially, materially, etc. And, to make this happen, wealth and possessions must be equally distributed and either state owned or owned by the citizenry equally or in a kind of common ownership. In all socialist efforts, cultures who have tried it have evolved into, or are evolving into, a communist-like government where an elite class dictates how the so-called equality of citizens is to be accomplished, and how all industry and other economically significant things will be managed.
- Back to the axiom of E. Belfort Bax:
 - > Notice the gloss of truth in the statement - it mimics bible language
 - > Notice the slightest of perversion here of the real truth that Christ Himself had spoken and as is recorded in Mat. 6:33: “**But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**”
 - > Socialism makes the “seeking first” point to somewhere else besides the Kingdom of God
 - > Socialism points to a “true society” as though there would be another besides the true society of the Kingdom of God
 - > Socialism makes the promise of getting everything you want added to your life by this focus on establishing or finding the so-called “true society.”
 - What we see where socialism has been followed and enforced in the world, is that it makes any human society more miserable than it was before and it subjects people to a phony equality which is no real equality at all. It also always leads to the loss of all personal freedoms for those under its dominion. Everything becomes subject to the will of the government.

Summary: The humanistic production of the philosophy of socialism in societies then, is the making of a lie

- Now, what about this characteristic of loving a lie? Again we want to use the lie of socialism

to illustrate why certain people love a lie:

- > Socialism subverts true following of God to following of so-called enlightened leaders or rulers - those who can keep positions of authority and power have every incentive to love the lie of socialism
 - > It supplants true religion with atheism and humanistic philosophies which form a kind of false religion (worship of man and the enterprises of man's social efforts) - those who want God out of the lives of men have every incentive to love the lie of socialism
 - > It makes the masses dependent on the state - those who dream of having no responsibility for working and being productive have every incentive to love the lie of socialism; further, those who are driven by egotism to be rulers and overseers of humans have every incentive to love socialism
 - > We should be able to understand that in the same way humans who promote socialism love it, just so, anyone who "makes a lie" (of whatever kind) must love the lie because it is their creation; and without exception these lies promote the lusts of those who love them. It is an expression of their inner being.
- So, by looking at the building of the lie of socialism and by looking at those who would love socialism, we are able to see what is meant by the scriptural reference about loving and making a lie.
 - There are thousands of other examples of this in the history of humanity. In all cases, these lovers and makers of lies are dupes and pawns of the Father of lies...the devil. Because he, above everything else, must produce and propagate lies in order to have power on earth.

II. What Will Be The End of These Deceivers Who Love and Make Lies?

Rev 21:8 **But the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.**

ADDITIONAL VERSES

Eph 4:25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another.

2Th 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2Th 2:9 *Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

2Th 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

2Th 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

2Th 2:12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

2Th 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that **if any would not work, neither should he eat.**

2Th 3:11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

2Th 3:12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and **eat their own bread.**