Frank Briscoe I JOHN Chapter Three

LET NO ONE LEAD YOU ASTRAY

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INTRODUCTION

- A. TEXT: "My little children, let no man lead you astray: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous: he that doeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. To this end was the Son of God manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." vs. 7,8.
- B. WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF GOD. v. 1.
 - 1. As children of God we cannot live in sin, vs. 4, 6, 9, etc.
 - 2. Deceived if we think we can sin and still please God.
 - 3. Let no one lead you astray.
 - a. Teaching that sin is not bad.
 - b. Those who would hid the reality of sin. Its results.
 - 4. Sin is Sin, lawlessness regardless of how it appears!

SIN WEARS A MASK

- A. "Take heed, brethren, lest haply there shall be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God: but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called Today; lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin:" (Heb. 3:12-13).
 - 1. This (Heb. 3:12,13) is both a warning and an exhortation.
 - 2. To become "hardened" is to become morally obstinate and stubborn.
 - 3. Unwillingness to listen to instruction, especially from God.
- B. The word "deceitful" means that which gives a false impression, whether by appearance, statement, or influence.
 - 1. The writer is, therefore, warning children of God lest they become morally obstinate (unwilling to listen to God) because of the deceitful appearance and impressions of sin.
 - 2. SIN WEARS A MASK!
 - a. What is the purpose of a mask?
 - b. To hid the real identity.
 - c. Sin does not want to appear as sin....bad!
 - 3. We will notice some of the "MASKS" that sin wears!

SIN WEARS THE MASK OF BEAUTY

- A. SIN Appears Other Than What It Actually Is.
 - 1. We need to think of sin as an ugly monster.

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2. A Monster who wears the mask of beauty.

B. OF BEING ATTRACTIVE OR ADVANTAGEOUS!

- 1. Sin Promises More Than It Gives.
 - a. To Eve...."ye shall be as gods...."
 - b. She saw..."to be desired to make one wise"
- 2. But...to her (and Adam's (sorrow, she found that sin was only wearing the mask of being attractive and advantageous.
- C. "YE SHALL NOT SURELY DIE"
 - 1. Why not go ahead and enjoy these pleasures and advantages???/
 - 2. The consequence is insignificant compared with the pleasure!!

OF BEING A SERVANT

- A. History abounds with instances of Kings making alliances with others so they could make them their servant. Often the opposite is true.
- B. Young People (and others) take up the habit of strong drink or drugs believing they could make such habits their servant to bring them happiness.
 - 1. DRINK....and it will make you popular...an allright guy..one of the crowd.
 - 2. DRINK...will be your servant to get you what you want.
 - a. BUT..does "drink" serve the drunkard...or ..does a drunkard serve drink?
 - b. What is the "finished product of the brewers art?
 - c. How many lives does drink claim each year...HOW MANY SOULS?
 - 3. Take DRUGS to get "high"..drugs are my servants to make me happy.
 - a. But in reality....who serves whom?
 - b. Drugs do not become addicted to humans...Humans become addicted

C. THE WORLD LOOKS A IMMORALITY as a servant to give pleasure!

- 1. How many unborn babies are killed each year?
- 2. How many infants are left for society to raise.
- 3. How many hearts are broken?
- 4. IMMORALITY OUR SERVANT.../???
 - a. LOOK AT THE WORLD AROUND US....REALLY LOOK.
 - b. NEVER FORGET...ROMANS 6:17. HIS SERVANT YE ARE....

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OF BEING RIGHT...

- A. Proverbs 16:25: "There is a way that seemeth right.....ways of death."
- B. MANY THINK THEY ARE RIGHT.
 - 1. But God warns us to "study to show thyself approved...."
 - 2. To "try the spirits...whether they are of God". (I John 4:1).
- C. Many members of the church think they are right when they are only nauseating to him. (Rev. 3:15-17).
 - 1. Come live this way..study God's word a little; apply a little of what you read to yourself; be little (if any) concerned for your soul and others.
 - 2. So long as you go to church once a week....YOU CAN BE CERTAIN OF GOING TO HEAVEN WHEN YOU DIE!!

REAPING WHAT DOESN'T SOW

- A. THE HOLY SPIRIT TELLS US...GALATIANS 6:7... "Be not deceived....
 - 1. One can not turn up his nose at God (make things turn out other than as God said they would.
 - 2. If a man planted turnip seed and reaped apples, it could truly be said that he had "mocked" God.
 - 3. This, of course, no one can do...BUT SIN PROMISES TO DO IT!!
- B. Sin wears the mask of promising to reap a harvest of happiness, joy, and peace from sowing the seed of sin. BUT THE FRUIT THAT COMES FROM SUCH A SEED IS:
 - 1. IN THIS LIFE: degradation, misery, fear, frustration, unhappiness, loss of fellowship with God, loss of true communion with loved ones.
 - 2. IN THE WORLD TO COME: eternal separation from God and everything that is holy and good, the suffering of terrible torment throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity (Rev. 20).

CONCLUSION

- A. SIN AND SATAN offer the promise of "PLENTY OF TIME".
 - 1. Satan doesn't care for you <u>Planning to become a Christian.</u>
 - 2. Satan says: "you have plenty of time". This is deceitfulness of sin.
- B. If you are not living the Christian life. Again Satan says: "WHAT IS THE HURRY? Death and Judgment is FAR AWAY! Be not deceived!!