

Collusion or Collision—Part 5 The Disguises of Satan From Sermon 5.9.21

Read 2 Corinthians 11:12-15

Review from Sunday's sermon: <u>building off last week's issues of the Church looking like the world—the focus moved to lack of discernment in the Church. Very few, now, can spot phonies and wolves in the flock. The enemy is a master of disguise. He infiltrates the church at all levels. He'll appear educated, peaceful, spiritual, and wise. Christians need to wake up to his schemes and practices.</u>

1. What will Satan never appear as, until Jesus unmasks him at the very end? <u>Himself/his true state</u>

2. What are some common misconceptions about the devil? Various Answers. How he looks. He can be easily spotted. The Hollywood/storybook image. That he's currently in hell. That he's out trying to win souls. That I've faced him before. Only wants you to do/be evil. He only empowers the worst criminals.

3. What is, by far, his favorite costume? <u>Religion...offering peace</u>, wisdom, charity, harmony, balance, <u>rituals</u>, <u>unity</u>, <u>meaning</u>, <u>fellowship</u>. Why? <u>It's easily he's most effective deception in history</u>.

4. Many times, he's manifested as or empowered a "Restorationist". What is a Restorationist and how does it differ from a Reformer? <u>A Restorationist sees both the church and the Bible as being corrupted.</u> <u>They have the new, improved, corrected version and doctrine. They are God's messenger and cannot be questioned. A Reformer see great issues in the Church and exposes them as deviations from the Scripture. To him, the Bible is supreme and moves the church to go back to first Church of the Apostles.</u>

5. What are some of his other masks? <u>Various answers. But, include: dictator, general, politician, scholar, media personality, financier.</u>

6. Read *Genesis 3:1-5*. What did the devil promise Eve? <u>God's Word cannot be trusted</u>. <u>God has ulterior</u> <u>motives</u>. You can be like God if you'll disobey His Word. You'll have power.</u>

6a. How is it similar to the promises made to the desperate today? <u>Today, he still promises the power</u><u>power over sickness, poverty, insignificance, defeat, and death.</u>

7. How are the Christian and the true Church supposed to identify the enemy? <u>How any person or group</u> treats and views the Word. What is said about the nature and person of Jesus Christ. A leader's/founder's/teacher's Morality, Transparency, Accountability, & Teachability. See *1 John 4:1-5* 

8. In the end, what will his final masquerade be? <u>All the above in one. A political, military, religious, and financial leader—a false messiah doing signs and wonders.</u> See also *Revelation 13:11-14*