

Man-Made Tests

"I am in a quandry about a friend of mine that has become involved with 'lunar sabbaths'."

Friend, when people want to chase after these 'man made tests' - there is little you can do. It seems really that Satan gets the person by leading him into strange paths- and then he gets the persons friends by getting them all caught up with trying to show the person the error of his ways. Often times these things ignored just fade away, but as you attack his idea he feels he has to justify himself- and so digs in deeper.

Those who set up 'extra' man made tests always have sin problems in their lives which they are unwilling to forsake. Some times it pays to totally ignore the new idea they are pressing and simple ask the person kindly, "Brother, how is it with your soul and Jesus? Is your heart totally on the altar and ready if you should die toady?" Then offer to pray for or with him.

One man of our acquaintance went on a binge of trying to convince all the married people in his church that to have relations when not for the reason of having a baby, was a sin. Shortly thereafter it came to light that this single man has gotten his girlfriend pregnant. It is nearly 100% that persons who go all out to force some standard of their own on others, have a sin problem of their own, they are refusing to deal with.

Here is one quote for you- but believe me, these things are not conquered by stacking proof against them- that just makes them think it is important when it is just one of the devil's rabbits he is trying to get us to chase.

"The third angel's message is that which we are to present to the world. Here God has a test for us, and if we come up to the standard, we shall be a peculiar people. Whoever obeys the fourth commandment will find that a separating line is drawn between him and the world. The Sabbath is a test, not a human requirement, but God's test. It is that which will distinguish between those who serve God and those who serve him not; and upon this point will come the last great conflict of the controversy between truth and error." {HS 215.2}

Teach Fundamental Truths.--Those who would labor in word and doctrine, should be firmly established in the truth before they are authorized to go out into the field to teach others. The truth, pure and unadulterated, must be presented to the people. It is the third angel's message that bears the true test to the people. Satan will lead men to manufacture false tests, and thus seek to obscure the value of, and make of none effect, the message of truth. {Ev 211.4}

The commandment of God that has been almost universally made void, is the testing truth for this time. . . . The time is coming when all those who worship God will be distinguished by this sign. They will be known as the servants of God, by this mark of their allegiance to Heaven. But all man-made tests will divert the mind from the great and important doctrines that constitute the present truth. {Ev 212.1}

Little Fables--Not Worth a Straw.--We are not to give the call to those who have received the truth and understand it, to whom it has been repeated over and over again **till someone thinks he must bring in something original. He brings in little fables which are not worth a straw.** These he brings forward as tests God has given, when Satan has originated them to divert minds from the true tests God has given.-- General Conference Bulletin, April 16, 1901. {Ev 213.1}

New and Strange Human Tests.--No one is to put truth to the torture by placing a forced, mystical construction upon the Word. Thus some are in danger of turning the truth of God into a lie. There are those who need in their hearts the touch of the divine Spirit. Then the message for this time will be their burden. They will not search for human tests, for something new and strange. The Sabbath of the fourth commandment is the test for this time, and all connected with this great memorial is to be kept before the people.--Undated Manuscript 111. {Ev 213.2}