

PUPPETS

Are They A Snare To Believers Into Idolatry?

What do you know about puppets? Where did the idea come from? What is their origin? Are puppets good or could they in a sense be bad? What about all the things our eyes see? When I first heard of puppets and saw them being used in the school, on TV and in the churches, a thought kept coming to me to investigate, so I did and I would like to share with you a portion of what I discovered in the dictionaries, encyclopedias and what the Bible says about them. The truth on puppets and any other subject is no secret in the dictionaries, and for many Christians involved with them, the Holy Bible.

So much of the time we take for granted that if the school, TV or the church uses anything it has to be alright, (and that is the way it should be) but we accept things without asking any questions, and without doing any research to see if it really is alright, and if the results will be what we want. Don't take my word for it. I challenge you to do some research of your own and discover more truth also.

Puppets - Puppetry- dictionary says it's a marionette, mummery, and mummery goes back to pagan Egypt of the long ago.

Mummery - a performance by mummers. A pretentious or hypocritical ritual; a dumb show.

Marionette - a small jointed figure used in shows.

Caricatures - these are pictures or descriptions in which the features are distorted or exaggerated to produce an absurd effect, a badly distorted likeness; to present as ridiculous, mimics the behavior in a comical way.

Cartoon - is satirically commenting or drawing. Satire is sarcasm, irony and raillery, banter.

Synonyms of caricatures are travesty and parody.

Travesty - in literature a burlesque treatment of a lofty subject. Isn't this a disgrace and a shame to choose such a degrading way to present truths and worthy subjects in literature and the Bible to our children and grandchildren and adults?

Parody - a humorous imitation of a piece of serious literary work, also of music. Is there anything more serious than school work, and the responsibility of the church where the Holy Bible is taught and is preached? Nothing more beautiful than music and loved by all people yet in not being discreet often made a sham.

When I began this research, I wrote letters to all over the U.S. and even Canada asking questions and I found none with the information of which I discovered. I shared with some who expressed fear at telling anyone what the involvement really meant.

America, these United States were founded upon Godly principles taken from the Bible, and those founders were not ashamed to say so and many of those principles are still in effect in our laws today, but most people would rather talk about any other subject than, "what does the LORD Jesus say".

When we read of the social chaos everywhere and stealing, killing, and so many people not telling the truth and we wonder why, but just maybe a lot of us good intentioned people sanctioned some things that really were a device and a snare set by the devil who is the author of deceit. Where is the Jesus of Hebrews 13:8 "the same yesterday, today and forever"?

You know sometimes we just go along thinking that what God says in His Word doesn't apply to me. We also have the thoughts that only certain parts of the Bible applies to us and we choose what we want to apply and what we don't want to accept we glibly say that was just for that time, that's not for now, I'm living under grace. That is the truth and just how much grace we need to realize and be thankful.

I wonder what people are going to do with some of the following scriptures and I give them for consideration because most people consider themselves a Christian, no matter what vocation you may be in, the first Christians earned that title by being, "like Christ," and believe you me, that is saying a lot. Take for instance, do you believe the Bible? Do you believe it to be God's word inspired by the Holy Spirit, written for our benefit?

Do you believe all the Bible, every word from Genesis to the Revelation? Believe it enough to obey it? Do you believe the God of the Bible? Do you believe God means what He says and says what He means? If you do you are not the run of the mill church member. Do you believe in Webster's dictionary for the definition of words? Do you believe the commandments God gave in the Bible are valid commandments for people to live by today?

Do you know and believe that deception is not of God, not even the smallest amount of deceit or lie is not from the Holy Spirit of Truth? When did you read or where does the Bible say God pretended?

Can a puppet talk, see, or hear? The answer is NO, yet so many do not see this is deception. Are the just to live by faith? Romans 1:17, Do the people that use puppets not have a faith and trust in the puppets? Romans 14:23 says "whatsoever is not of faith is sin." Why use them if they have no faith in them? Where do thoughts and ideas come from if they are contrary to the word of God?

People say that puppets are not idols, but what does the word of God say? Read the following scriptures with a definite checking on puppets, magic, gimmicks used to attract our children, grandchildren and adults. Exodus 20:1-6 are not some of these in our laws today, no stealing, no killing, do not bear false witness? What about verse 4, do not make any image or any likeness, the thing has to first be made before you can use it in worship or to teach with, or do most people say God didn't mean that?

Psalms 115:1-11 and Psalms 135:15-18 and Jeremiah 10:1-6, I find in reading these a contrast between God and His ways and the ways of the heathen and the work of men's hands. Puppets and some other attractions come in this category. We need to watch and check men's ideas and inventions, not all of them are acceptable to God for His people, read Psalms 106:29, 39 and Acts 17:22-25 and Ecclesiastes 7:29, Deuteronomy 4:15-20, says causes corruption.

Did you know Proverbs 6:12-14 says a naughty person teaches with his fingers? The evil spirit behind such, sows discord so the word says, do you know what the Hebrew meaning of the word discord is? Strong's Bible dictionary says it means a contest! If discord is contest, no wonder we have so much discord in all walks of life.

Everyone seeking to outdo someone else, giving prizes and rewards if you do excel. There have been times in reading the churches news and listening to the advertising for the coming week of ball games, auctions, puppet shows, selling this and selling that, promotion on the fleshly things the Apostle Paul said to "not fulfill the lusts of the flesh," makes one wonder if you are going to the right place, "church" check the name over the entrance, a person really thought church was a place to worship JESUS as it says in Acts 4:10-12 "no salvation in any other name but Jesus." Jude says "going the error of Balaam for reward" Paul said in I Corinthians 10:11 both old and new testaments were written for admonition upon whom the ends of the world are come. Are we nearing the end of an age?

Habakkuk 2:18-20 says wood and stone can't teach, that the Lord is in His Holy Temple. I Corinthians 6:18 says our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Isn't yours His temple? Romans 6:6-18 says do not yield your members to be servants of sin, verse 16 says to whomever you yield, his you become. We should be careful to whom we are yielding ourselves.

Well, you might like to know just why should such an article as this come out in the newspaper. I knew of no other way to let so many people know the truth. I knew many would call me a fanatic and someone who just wants to find fault and criticize, but that is not my purpose. My intention is to obey a scripture in Romans 1:18, "the wrath of God is against those who hold the truth in unrighteousness".

There are many of the pastors of churches who know what the Bible says and what God expects of them as shepherds of the flock but they are afraid to preach it because they would lose their job as pastor of that particular church. If the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is not far off, what will be our answer be to Him as to why we didn't share the whole counsel of God, leaving nothing out, after all God wrote the Bible and put in it truth for us to believe and obey and He says He is responsible that His word not return void. It is really a disgrace as to what "we believers" don't believe that's written in the Bible.

Romans 1:23 says some made images of like birds, four-footed beasts, creeping things and God was displeased. Reading farther you will find what God gave them over to and none are desirable, at least for Christians. Romans 8:6-8 says carnal mind and flesh are enmity against God. Light has no communion with darkness. Our eyes are the light of the body, set no wicked thing before our eyes, Rom 12:1-2; Matt 6:22-24; II Corinthians 6:14-18 and Psalms 101:3 says if your eyes see it, it can cleave to you, that could mean good or bad. It is a dangerous thing to use deception. Jeremiah 48:10 says it brings a curse. Deuteronomy chapters 27 and 28 talks about curses being sickness.

Yes, I know that Jesus bore the curse for us, but it is not automatic. It's just like being born again, Jesus paid the price but I must experience it for it to be real for me. And doing the things God said not to do could bring some things besides blessings like honor thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God commanded thee, that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. Turn that around and disobey it and your days could be shortened and things might not go well with thee. This is found in Deut 5:16.

"Peculiar" people, Paul says God's people are to be, but the trend now is to be like the world as much as possible. It seems we have forgotten John 17:14 and 1 John 2:15-16 "be in the world but not of the world, love not the world." Colossians 3:1-3 suggests strongly we are to be seeking those things above not things on the earth.

Who is going to bring the message to the world if there is so much of the world in the Christians and the church? Can the world see anything in us to show the difference? Surely people don't go to church to be entertained, and surely not with the same things they can get by going to a movie, a circus or staying home watching TV cartoons.

Unless you and I are deceived more than we like or want to admit, we should be going to church for a different reason. Just ask yourself how much is church like the Bible? If we were like the Bible we might be in jail, as was Paul and Peter, and the things that was said about them would be said about us "much learning doth make thee mad, and I'll listen some more convenient day".

John 12:32 Jesus said "if I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me".

Ephesians 1:21 says Jesus' name is above dominions, power, principalities and every name that is named in this world or in that which is to come. What name are you exalting or lifting up? There is none but Jesus and His Blood might have the preeminence. Colossians 1:18 Do you want to be conformed to the image of the Son? Better begin to take an inventory. That's how I received new birth was when I discovered what I thought I had didn't measure up to what the Bible required.

So much joking, foolish talking and story telling yet in Ephesians 5:4 "let it not once be named among you as becometh saints." What is inside of Christians and any law abiding people with the intentions to do good that they would let themselves get involved with puppets, attractions of the world, flesh, magic, gimmicks when we have such good sources to teach us differently? Could we have a strange god in us? Psalms 81:8-10 gives the possibility. Deliverance from demons. Yes, the Bible says so about believers, and they are to do it. Have you seen it done, have you experienced it? Yes, I'm a fanatic for Jesus because I read where the lukewarm get spewed out of His mouth.

Mrs. Charlene Fite

West Plains, Missouri

(As printed in the West Plains Daily Quill)

Distributed by permission from:

Lake Hamilton Bible Camp
PO Box 21516
Hot Springs, AR 71903
501-525-8204
72lhbc@cablelynx.com
www.LakeHamiltonBibleCamp.com

**COME—BE A PART OF AN OLD-FASHIONED
HOLY GHOST FAMILY CAMP MEETING
EVERY HOLIDAY—SEVEN TIMES A YEAR**

LADIES CONFERENCE: Third Weekend in February –
Friday Evening thru Sunday Morning

PASSOVER (Easter): Thursday Evening – Sunday Morning

MEMORIAL Weekend: Thursday Evening – Monday Morning

FOURTH OF JULY Week

LABOR DAY Weekend: Thursday Evening – Monday Morning

THANKSGIVING Weekend: Dinner Thursday Afternoon
Through Sunday Morning

WINTER: Dinner December 25
Through Watch Night Service New Year's Eve

Write for Campground Publication
"Voices From His Excellent Glory"

LAKE HAMILTON BIBLE CAMP

P. O. Box 21516

HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK, ARKANSAS 71903

PHONE: (501) 525-8204

72lhbc@cablelynx.com

www.LakeHamiltonBibleCamp.com