



"There is usury upon usury, and deceit upon deceit; they wanted not to know me, says Yahweh." – Jer 9:6 (APB)

COPING WITH DECEIVERS

"WHEN IN ROME ..."

"When in Rome" should we "do as the Romans do?"

Put another way ... *"when in Babylon" should we "do as the Babylonians do"?*

You've no doubt heard this old saying. It originated from a bishop in Milan who believed it prudent to follow the customs of whatever society he happened to be in at the time.

Strangely enough, this sounds similar to the habits of Israel after the time of Samuel. You may remember ... that was when the elders of Israel made the decision to abandon the ways of God to follow the customs of the nations round about them (1Sam. 8:5).

So ... what I am about to explain may sound strange at first, especially in light of Jesus' instruction to his disciples:

26. *Fear them not therefore: for nothing is concealed that shall not be revealed; or hidden that will not be known.*

27. *What I tell you in darkness, speak in light: and what you hear in the ear, proclaim upon the housetops.*

Mtt 10:26-27

I know! Your first inclination is to assume that Jesus wanted his disciples to openly broadcast the gospel everywhere to everyone regardless of who hears. But here is the key to understanding this instruction. Consider who were the people to whom the apostles were sent?

5. *These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the nations, and into any city of the Samaritans enter not:*

6. *But go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.*

7. *And as you go, proclaim, saying, The Kingship of Heaven is at hand.*

Mtt 10:5-7

So, did Jesus tell his disciples to indiscriminately tell all they knew to everyone they saw? Did He send them out to confess to their enemies that they rejected Caesar and the Jewish High Priests? In other words, were they expected to declare their allegiance to Christ's Kingship when in the presence of their enemies? Of course, the answer is NO! In fact, Jesus Himself was consistently closed mouthed when in the presence of his enemies. Indeed, when He was on trial before Pilate, He hardly spoke at all.

When Jesus sent his apostles to proclaim the good news of his Reign, He warned them about their enemies.

16. *Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: become therefore wise as the serpents, and pure (uncompromised) as the doves.*

17. *But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the Sanhedrin, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;*

Mtt 10:16-17

Jesus sent his messengers to find God's lost sheep who were living among wolves. His messengers needed wisdom to know how to reach his sheep without being devoured by the wolves that were everywhere.

So today – as disciples of Jesus – we, too, are among wolves and need to use wisdom to avoid being devoured by them. We must not make ourselves easy targets for our enemies.

Nonetheless, there is a time for "shouting from the roof tops." This instruction was for the purpose of reaching those sheep who had "eyes to see, and ears to hear." Jesus gave this instruction to his messengers immediately after He also gave the following instruction to them:

14. *And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when you depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.*

Mtt 10:14

In Luke 10:1-16, Jesus repeated this instruction to his seventy messengers sent out to sow seeds of truth but not in rocky ground or among thorns.

Also, in Luke 12:1, Jesus tells his disciples to *“Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.”* Today He might have said, *“Beware of the leaven of the churches.”* Jesus goes on through verse 12 warning them to be on guard for the treachery devised by people among whom they lived and worked.

Thus, we perceive the logic in his instructions. We must always be ready to greet and befriend those who honestly seek truth and want to follow Christ. However, when we find ourselves among wolves, or among people where Christ is unknown or hated, we are to be on guard. We are not instructed to make ourselves obvious targets for our enemies. We are to learn how to “hide in plain sight”; to be nondescript so we don’t expose ourselves to them.

This advice is particularly appropriate for saints today who reside in America. Like Abraham, we are strangers and sojourners in this foreign system.

For this reason, I advise my fellow ecclesiastics to always expect deception from sources of published instruction or news that comes from the Beast System. This includes the politicians, the government-controlled news broadcasts, the state-controlled institutions of brainwashing for children (the schools and colleges), and especially beware of the churches. Think of them in the same way the apostles were warned to think about the Jews. Remember that anything you hear from these sources is probably deception.

So, my advice is: **“WHEN IN ROME ... WATCH OUT FOR THE ROMANS!”**

GOD’S SYSTEM vs. MAN’S SYSTEM

In the Bible, including both Old and New Testaments, there are parts that apply to life in God’s system, and there are other parts that apply to life in man’s system. These are not contradictions. These are different guidelines for different situations.

Laws governing life within the nation in times of peace were not always the same when dealing with enemies or in times of war. For instance, usury was strictly forbidden in transactions with brothers. However, in Deuteronomy 23:20 the law states it is OK to charge usury to “a stranger” (an enemy). Usury is a method of war, and therefore a tool to use against enemies.

In a godly system (like the time of Judges; i.e., from Joshua until Samuel), Israel had no king but Yahweh. Israel was not following the Beast System. When problems arose during those years they were resolved according to God’s laws because the Beast System wasn’t there to interfere. This period of time lasted approximately 1400 years. These were the golden years for Israel-of-Old because they were following the teachings of Moses – guidelines from God.

After Samuel (the last judge), things started going sideways as described in 1 Samuel 8. Israel abandoned the Covenant, and God let Israel go (He divorced her). Israel, who earlier became wife to Yahweh by covenant at Sinai, had been enjoying God’s protection while He was her

Husband. But after a time, Israel began seeking other lovers (other systems). Israel began following the examples of other nations around them. In other words, Israelites began thinking they wanted a Beast System of their own to be a husband and protector. The elders of Israel petitioned Samuel and demanded a king after the manner of the other nations. Samuel was hurt and mad at Israel for rejecting his leadership, but God told Samuel that Israel was not rejecting him ... rather, Israel was rejecting God, *“that He should not reign over them”* (1 Sam 8:7).

As long as Israel had been operating under God’s Reign, the covenant principles and laws had applied. But after Israel abandoned God, and the marriage covenant was lost, their relationship with God changed substantially. The covenant principles no longer applied. Some promises no longer applied. Some judgments and laws no longer applied. And more to the point of this article, certain protections no longer applied.

For Israel, life in the Beast System was different. When Yahweh had been her Husband, He extended his umbrella of protection over her ... as a husband protects his wife. But after Samuel’s day, the umbrella of God’s protection was gone. The people of Israel were left to their own devices ... as they had insisted on. The next three centuries saw Israel without a covenant and sinking under the corruption of their own kings. Then they were taken into captivity – first by Assyria and then by Babylon and Persia.

In captivity, the principles of the covenant from Sinai were not applicable. The laws of the covenant were for a free Israel. Those national laws were lost to individuals isolated in foreign systems. When Israel discarded her Husband, she discarded the laws that protected her as a nation, as well as the laws that protected individuals. Her former covenant no longer applied, and she was no longer a free nation. Her people were left to make their own way without Yahweh. This was what they had demanded from Samuel.

LIVING IN A BEAST SYSTEM

Living in a Beast System is much different from living in a godly system. Different rules apply. For instance, during the time of the Judges people could appeal to the Laws of God for justice. But in the Beast System they only had access to man’s laws.

What we’ve come to know all too well is that man’s laws leave us without hope of justice. The man-made state (the government) has no real interest in our safety or well-being but instead is constantly devising ways to exploit us and enslave us for its own benefit ... always under the guise of protecting and serving us. Thus, we have no advocates in the administration of a Beast System. Folks who think they have “rights” and protections in the Beast System couldn’t be more wrong. In the Beast System they only have enemies. They just don’t realize it.

Abraham was a stranger and sojourner in strange lands, not having a native homeland. He, like us, kept faith with God on an individual basis without the benefit of godly national laws and administration. He considered the rulers of the lands in which he sojourned as enemies and, therefore,

had no inhibitions against deceiving them (see Gen. 12:10-13, and 20:1-2).

Also, when under Midianite oppression, Gideon (a judge in Israel) threshed his wheat in secret to keep the Midianite rulers from taking (taxing) it (Judges 6:11). God blessed Gideon for this act of deception, and his name is included among the men of faith listed in Hebrews 11.

Rahab (listed among the faithful in Heb. 11), had formerly been a harlot in Jericho (Josh. 2). She deceived the King's agents who showed up to arrest some Israelite spies who had been sent there by Joshua. She saved Joshua's spies by deceiving the king.

Jesus taught his disciples to be "wise (cunning) as serpents." This advice pertained to their dealings with serpents (enemies) ... not with brethren (Mtt. 10:16). Clearly, Jesus was teaching his disciples how to deal with enemies.

FOR PUBLIC CONSUMPTION

It is well known that governments have two agendas. One agenda is private. This one is their true intentions. The other agenda for public consumption sets forth what they want us to believe is their true agenda. Their public (false) agenda speaks of freedom and justice, while their hidden (actual) agenda is enslavement and deceit.

The MSM (main stream media) is owned and controlled by the Beast System. Their news programs are not for the purpose of disseminating true information. Rather, they are for the purpose of controlling the public by broadcasting what the Beast System wants us to think. They are tools of thought control. Nothing more. Anyone who believes what they see and hear from the MSM are naive fools. There is only one viable reason to monitor the MSM: namely, to find out what our enemies want us to think ... and thus learn what we should NOT believe.

Long before radio or TV, Thomas Jefferson stated: "*The man who never looks into a newspaper is better informed than he who reads them; inasmuch as he who knows nothing is nearer to truth than he whose mind is filled with falsehoods and errors.*"

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM

Conventional wisdom (**CW**) is that which is believed by most everyone. The problem is ... it is almost always wrong. Some examples (with short explanations):

CW1: "The Bible instructs us how to get to heaven."

REALITY: The Bible instructs us of God's laws and how to live correctly with one another here on Earth. The Bible is about life here on Earth, not about a future in outer space.

CW2: "The purpose of churches is to teach of Christ."

REALITY: The purpose of churches is to divert people from truth. Churches are tools of the state (Beast System). They were invented by the Mithras-worshipping Roman emperor, Constantine. Neither Jesus nor his apostles ever started or authorized a church. The word "church" is not in

the Bible. Church is a pagan concept popularized by anti-Christian movements like Roman Catholicism.

Any organization calling itself a "church" has demonstrated (by using that label) that it is a non-Christian entity and not competent to teach even the basic elements of Scripture, much less to teach about Christ.

Not every one that says to me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingship of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name? and in your name have cast out demons? and in your name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess to them, I never knew you: depart from me, you that work iniquity.

– Mtt 7:21-23

There is ONLY ONE category of people to which this warning from Jesus can possibly apply. He was warning us against those who claim to follow Him but don't actually know Him. Clearly, this describes churchgoers and their leaders. They claim the name (authority) of Christ but do not know Him. When churchgoers read this, they don't want to admit Jesus was talking about THEM.

CW3: "Jews today are the Semitic ancestors of the sons of Jacob: the Children of Israel."

REALITY: Jews today have little, if any, genetic connection to Israelites of the Bible. Most Jews today are a mixture of Eastern European ancestry, as well as various mixtures similar to the nomadic people once known as Gypsies. They are not Semitic and are not Israelites. They have falsely usurped the label "Jew" much the same as churches have usurped the label "Christian."

CW4: "The US Constitution is Christian in nature."

REALITY: The US Constitution was a charter devised and sold to the American public as a contract (covenant) binding to all Americans. It is, in fact, the equivalent to Israel's big mistake of rejecting God and insisting that they needed a king to rule them like the other nations (1 Sam 8). The US Government (created by the Constitution) is a man-made system that rejects God as our Lawmaker.

The Constitution was a devious plot by plutocrats to seize control over America's resources and its unsuspecting, uneducated citizens who were too busy making a living in this new land to keep track of the criminals who were scheming with bankers to take over the country.

The Constitution was false and deceptive from its beginning. It was drawn up and approved by a group of conspirators (the so-called "Founding Fathers") in a secret meeting in Philadelphia in 1783. It begins by claiming to be a statement of "We the People of the United States ...". What right did they have to claim "We the People" while preventing the people from knowing anything about it or participating in it? What right does this contract have over people who are not signers to it? What right does this contract have over a land that the signers did not own and did not represent? (Please read **NO TREASON** by Lysander Spooner at benwilliamslibrary.com).

CW5: "Voting lets you participate in the running of the US Government. It is every citizen's patriotic duty to vote."

REALITY: Voting does one thing for voters. It tricks them into the false impression that they can control the government. They are also told that the government works for them and that its job is to protect them.

The truth is just the opposite. The people work for the government, not the other way around. Man's government is the worst enemy of the people.

When people are duped into trusting and supporting their worst enemy ... this is the greatest deception of all. This is literally the serpent's lie, and it is "*more cunning than all beasts of the land*" (Gen 3:1).

In Samuel's day, Israelites were enamoured with foreign gods (i.e., systems/governments in other nations). They wanted that kind of government instead of God. God told Samuel to give them what they wanted but warn them how it would go. He told them their man-made kings would take their sons to fight and die in the king's wars, work the king's fields, harvest his crops, and make his weapons of war. Their daughters would be forced to be cooks and slaves for the king. The king would steal the people's fields, vineyards and orchards and give them to his personal servants (agents and politicians). The king would take their land, cattle and industry, and the people would become his slaves (1 Sam 8). This is true today!

CW6: "The US Government has good and truthful reasons for its wars. And US soldiers are heroes."

REALITY: All America's wars and invasions for the past century (and before) were planned, precipitated, and started by the US Government itself. The government requires wars in order to stay in power. Without constant threat of war the government would lose its main reason to exist.

In 1963, a 15-member special study group of world elites met to consider what problems would occur if the United States entered a state of lasting peace. They met at an underground nuclear bunker called Iron Mountain. The book published of this study is [Report From Iron Mountain](#). They worked approximately two years on the project.

The heavily footnoted report concluded that peace was not in the interest of a stable society, that even if lasting peace could be achieved, it would almost certainly not be in the best interests of society. War was a part of the economy. Therefore, it was necessary to conceive a continual state of war for a stable economy.

The government could not exist without war, and nation states exist in order to wage war. War serves a vital function ... thus they need invented foes to scare the people with false flag events (like 9-11) as pretexts to dupe people into supporting the idea of going to war with invented enemies. This method was also exposed in the infamous [Operation Northwoods document](#) of 1962, a top military strategy proposed to trick the public into war with Cuba.

Soldiers are not heroes. Sometimes they are drafted into wars as slaves forced to destroy and murder for the government. Today they are volunteer hired assassins ... mercenaries doing jobs, destroying and murdering for pay.

The current wars in which the US Government is engaged, as well as the hostile propaganda being used to

vilify Iran, Syria, and Russia, are all deception. The news organizations parrot scripted reports handed to them by government spokesmen. They are publishing pure deception, and most of the news reporters know it.

The 9-11 attack was planned and executed by black operations within the US Government to create fear and justify the creation of "Homeland Security" and the so-called "War On Terror." Muslims had nothing whatsoever to do with 9-11. This event was planned and used by the Bush administration and the US Military to justify the exploding police state and war. The US is currently waging a dozen or more unjust wars ... and is looking to start even more.

The lies and propaganda published to justify these wars are understood by most people of the world (except Americans) to be pure deception. We've seen that deception and wars have developed with startling speed since 2001.

CW7: "Soviet Communism, during the 50s through the 80s, was the arch enemy of the US Government."

REALITY: Soviet Communism was conceived in London and built by the US Government.

The US sponsored and funded select Jews to foment rebellion to overthrow the old Russian leadership and put Lenin into power. The US is doing the same thing today in Ukraine. Also, after the effects of World War II began to wane in Americans' memories, the US Government needed an ostensible enemy to keep it relevant.

After the war, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin met at Yalta (the Crimea) to divide up Europe. The Soviet Union was given huge additional areas of Eastern Europe and were promised support to develop Communism.

During the "Cold War," the US Military, under orders by the White House, sent plane after plane carrying secret US weapon technology directly to the Kremlin – including nuclear secrets. This is documented in [The Jordan Diaries](#) (by Major George Racey Jordan).

WE ARE DIFFERENT (SPIRITUALLY)

As ecclesiastics (disciples of Christ) we are citizens of New Jerusalem – that "city" of living faith in Heb. 11:8-10 and Rev. 22:14-15. As New Jerusalemites we are NOT citizens of dead kingdoms of men ... like USA, Britain, or Israel. Our allegiance and life is with New Jerusalem, not with man-made kingdoms that usurp the Throne of God.

Thus, as citizens of New Jerusalem, we are strangers and sojourners among the citizens of man-made kingdoms. We are NOT like them, and they are NOT like us. Their gods are NOT ours. Their faiths are NOT ours. Their enemies are NOT ours. Their friends are NOT ours. Their allegiances are NOT ours. They are children of the world. We are children of New Jerusalem. We are told to "Come out from among them and be SEPARATE" from the systems and children of the world.

Get used to it! Be thankful for it! Don't try to befriend Babylon! It is not what we are called to do.

Christ called us OUT of the world. Find and love Christ's sheep ... and learn the difference between sheep and goats.

Ben Williams