

## Faith in the Home

Third Sunday after Pentecost, Mark 3:20-35 "The Spirit of Truth Versus the Father of Lies."

In today's passage a group of Jewish Scribes accuse Jesus of being in league with Satan to explain how Jesus had the ability to cast out demons. Even though they could acknowledge the miracles being performed by Jesus, their lack of faith would not let them see that Jesus is the Son of God. Ironically enough, the people who accused Jesus of being in league with Satan, were in fact, the ones in league with Satan with out even knowing it. In this particular case the lie ensnaring Scribes feeds on their own pride, stature, and religious authority over the Jewish people. The scribes were filled with pride.

Pride is part of our sinful nature that comes so easy. So, in response to witnessing Jesus cast demons out of those who are possessed, they say that Satan has to be source of Jesus' power. To acknowledge that Jesus was doing this as the Son of God, would mean acknowledging that they were wrong. Repenting and admitting fault is a painful process that can make believing a lie to justify yourself seem like a life line to save face.

Understand, this is a form of self-worship, and self-worship is worship of the devil, even if you don't acknowledge that Satan is real (in fact practicing Satanists may not even believe that Satan is real, and call their practice a form of self-worship.)

From our vantage point as Christians reading this text, we can see the stupidity of this lie that Jesus is casting out demons through the power of demons. Jesus acknowledges absurdity of this lie when He said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." As absurd as lie may be, if it appeals to your vanity and pride, or justifies your actions/beliefs, then you may hold on to that lie with your life. Our nation is a house divided because much of our culture has fallen for Satan's lies that attack the foundation that Has made America and the rest of Western Civilization so wonderful.

What is that foundation Christ in His Church. We are so caught up in the material things this world that we think if the right pollical party holds power it will solve all of our problems. We are in a war that is so much deeper than this upcoming election. We are in a war for the soul. We are in war of good verses evil. Light verses darkness. Our political situation in this country is just a symptom of the spiritual depravity that is been born from Godlessness. Satan seems like an overwhelming force. He is indeed "the strongman" that Jesus mentions when He said, "You cannot plunder the strongman's house unless you first bind the strongman."

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