

# Entangled Alliances

**Intro:** When Pharaoh allowed the Israelites to leave Egypt, they encamped by the Red Sea. God tell Moses what will happen regarding Pharaoh in Exo. 14:3 “*For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.*” Pharaoh expected the Israelites to be entangled like an insect in a spider’s web. There is always a danger that we become so allied with evil as to get entangled in it. Satan has his devices in which to entangle us (2 Cor. 2:11 “*Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*” 2 Tim. 2:26 “*And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*”) He has his “spider webs” and we must beware of them.

## I. ENTANGLED IN THE OLD LAW.

### A. In New Testament times, the Judaizing teachers wanted to be entangled in The Law.

1. Acts 15:1 “*And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.*”
2. They were then debtors to keep the whole Law.
  - a. Gal. 5:3 “*For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.*”
  - b. Jam. 2:10 “*For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*”
  - c. That would include: Sabbath, animal sacrifices, incense, circumcision, Passover, etc.
3. Yet, it was a Law they could not keep.
  - a. Acts 15:10 “*Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?*”
  - b. Gal. 3:10 “*For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.*”

### B. Many today try to go back under that yoke:

1. The Adventists
  - a. They return to the Law to bind Sabbath keeping.
  - b. Exo. 20:8 “*Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.*”
2. Mormons
  - a. They return to the Law for their practice of polygamy.
  - b. Abraham, Isaac, David, Solomon, et.al.
  - c. It was not so from the beginning; Mat. 19:4-5 “*And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?*”
3. Those who add instrumental music to our worship.
  - a. They argue from David.
  - b. Psa. 150:3-5 “*Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.*”
  - c. The New Testament says sing.
    - (1) Eph. 5:19 “*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;*”
    - (2) Col. 3:16 “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*”

- (3) Heb. 13:15-16 <sup>15</sup>By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name. <sup>16</sup>But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

### C. We have been made free from the Law.

1. The Old Law was nailed to the cross.
  - a. Eph. 2:15 <sup>15</sup>Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, *even* the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, *so* making peace;”
  - b. Col. 2:14 <sup>14</sup>Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;”
  - c. Heb. 10:9 <sup>9</sup>Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.”
2. We have been made free from it.
  - a. Gal. 5:1 <sup>1</sup>Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”
  - b. Rom. 6:14 <sup>14</sup>For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.” (“Under the law” means under it as a rule of conduct.)
  - c. Rom. 7:4, 6-7 <sup>4</sup>Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, *even* to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. <sup>5</sup>For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. <sup>6</sup>But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not *in* the oldness of the letter. <sup>7</sup>What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.”
3. Those who go back to it have apostatized; Gal. 5:4 <sup>4</sup>Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.”

## II. WITH THE AFFAIRS OF THIS LIFE.

### A. The Scriptures warn us of such:

1. Luke 8:14 <sup>14</sup>And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.”
2. 2 Tim. 2:3-4 <sup>3</sup>Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”

### B. Some entanglements of this life:

1. Love of wealth.
  - a. This love of money entangles many away from their duty as Christians.
  - b. 1 Tim. 6:5-10 <sup>5</sup>Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. <sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out. <sup>8</sup>And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. <sup>9</sup>But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.”
  - c. 1 Tim. 6:17-18 <sup>17</sup>Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; <sup>18</sup>That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;”
  - d. Jesus asked: Mat. 16:26 <sup>26</sup>For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

2. Sinful occupations:
    - a. Things such as peddling liquor, dope, operating a gambling place, a dance hall, etc.
    - b. Eph. 4:28 <sup>28</sup> Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
  3. Making a god of wisdom rather than learning the wisdom and knowledge of God.
    - a. Men often submit to those of “learning” who have higher degrees of education.
    - b. They unknowingly make a god out of those individuals and their infidel education and schools.
    - c. Human education without a knowledge of God is worthless.
      - (1) Mat. 6:33 <sup>33</sup> But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
      - (2) Pro. 1:7 <sup>7</sup> The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.”
      - (3) 1 Tim. 6:20 <sup>20</sup> O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane *and* vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:”
    - d. These often lead us to depart from God; Heb. 3:12 <sup>12</sup> Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.”
  4. Entanglement of debts.
    - a. Installment buying, borrowing from one to pay another, credit card, etc.
      - (1) It is not sinful to borrow money or use credit cards, etc.
      - (2) When we borrow to such an extent that we cannot pay it back, it is sinful.
      - (3) Borrowing in such a way that it keeps us under stress and strain is wrong.
    - b. Make sure we always pay back what we owe; Rom. 13:8 <sup>8</sup> Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.”
    - c. Always tied-up with nothing to give, etc. Eph. 4:28 <sup>28</sup> Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
- C. **Luke 8:13-14** <sup>13</sup> They on the rock *are they*, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. <sup>14</sup> And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of *this* life, and bring no fruit to perfection.”

### III. WITH THE POLLUTIONS OF THE WORLD.

- A. **2 Pet. 2:20-22** <sup>20</sup> For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. <sup>21</sup> For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. <sup>22</sup> But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog *is* turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.”
1. Here is someone who originally was in the “pollutions of the world.”
  2. Pollutions has to deal with moral corruption caused by crime and vice, thus of general worldliness in this context.
  3. They escaped that moral corruption but now have become entangled again in it.
- B. **We are to live separated lives.**
1. Rom. 12:1-2 <sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

2. 2 Cor. 6:14-17 <sup>14</sup> Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? <sup>15</sup> And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? <sup>16</sup> And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>17</sup> Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you.”
3. Tit. 2:11-14 <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; <sup>13</sup> Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; <sup>14</sup> Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”
4. Jas. 1:27 <sup>27</sup> Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, *and* to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

### C. Some pollutions of this world.

1. Fornication and adultery:
  - a. Gal. 5:19-21 <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, <sup>20</sup> Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, <sup>21</sup> Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”
  - b. This includes erroneous doctrines on divorce and remarriage in the church.
2. Drinking and drunkenness
  - a. Pro. 20:1 <sup>1</sup> Wine *is* a mocker, strong drink *is* raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.”
  - b. Pro. 23:29-35 <sup>29</sup> Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? <sup>30</sup> They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. <sup>31</sup> Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, *when* it moveth itself aright. <sup>32</sup> At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. <sup>33</sup> Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. <sup>34</sup> Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. <sup>35</sup> They have stricken me, *shalt thou say*, *and* I was not sick; they have beaten me, *and* I felt *it* not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.”
  - c. Eph. 5:18 <sup>18</sup> And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;”
3. Our speech
  - a. Lying
    - (1) Eph. 4:25 <sup>25</sup> Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.”
    - (2) All lies are of Satan; John 8:44 <sup>44</sup> Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”
    - (3) Will result with our being lost.
      - (a) Rev. 21:27 <sup>27</sup> And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”
      - (b) Rev. 22:15 <sup>15</sup> For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”
  - b. Filthy, vile speech
    - (1) Eph. 4:29 <sup>29</sup> Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”

- (2) Col. 3:8-9 <sup>“8</sup> But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;”
- c. Anger and evil speaking
  - (1) Eph. 4:31 <sup>“31</sup> Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:”
  - (2) 1 Pet. 2:1 <sup>“1</sup> Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,”
- d. Mat. 12:36-37 <sup>“36</sup> But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”
- 4. Theft and dishonesty
  - a. Eph. 4:28 <sup>“28</sup> Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with *his* hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”
  - b. Sometimes it is as simple as taking things from work that does not belong to us.
  - c. Misrepresenting thing to others to gain an advantage; etc.

#### IV. OTHER ENTANGLING ALLIANCES.

##### A. Denominationalism:

1. This is one of many “spider webs” that few ever escape.
2. Denominationalism is sinful.
  - a. Unity:
    - (1) John 17:20-21 <sup>“20</sup> Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; <sup>21</sup> That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.”
    - (2) Eph. 4:2-6 <sup>“2</sup> With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; <sup>3</sup> Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> One Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.”
  - b. Division condemned:
    - (1) Rom. 16:17-18 <sup>“17</sup> Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. <sup>18</sup> For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.”
    - (2) 1 Cor. 1:10-13 <sup>“10</sup> Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. <sup>11</sup> For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them *which are of the house* of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. <sup>12</sup> Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?”
  - c. Mat. 15:13-14 <sup>“13</sup> But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. <sup>14</sup> Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.”
3. Denominations deceive the members and create a “brand loyalty” where truth does not matter.

## B. Fornication and adulterous marriages.

1. Fornication and adultery are sinful.
  - a. Terms:
    - (1) Fornication is a general term that includes any illicit sexual activity.
    - (2) Adultery is a specific term that is a part of fornication but involves a married person.
  - b. Works of the flesh; Gal. 5:19 <sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,”
  - c. 1 Cor. 6:9-10 <sup>9</sup> Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, <sup>10</sup>Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.”
2. Fornication
  - a. So many (especially young people) are making the decision to live together without the benefit of marriage.
  - b. Premarital sex is almost expected in our society.
  - c. Many other perversions are now being accepted in our society: homosexuality, pedophilia, bestiality, etc.
3. Adultery
  - a. Today there is very little dedication to faithfulness in the marriage relationship.
  - b. Many congregations today have entangled themselves with adultery in the form of marriages.
    - (1) Mark 10:11-12 <sup>11</sup> And he saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. <sup>12</sup> And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery.”
    - (2) Mat. 19:9 <sup>9</sup> And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except *it be* for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.”

## C. All sinful habits.

1. Psa. 9:15 <sup>15</sup> The heathen are sunk down in the pit *that* they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.”
2. Pro. 5:22 <sup>22</sup> His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins.”
3. John 8:34 <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.”
4. Sin brings one under the power of sin.
  - a. 2 Cor. 6:17 <sup>17</sup> Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,”
  - b. Rev. 18:4 <sup>4</sup> And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

Conclusion: Let us make sure we are never entangled by the sinful alliances of Satan.