



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NINILCHIK

SUNDAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S READING

The HOLY WAR

Made by Shaddai Upon Diabulous for the
Regaining of the Metropolis of the World
or

The Losing and Taking Again of the
Town of Mansoul

by John Bunyan

Retold in Modern English
by Jon Cardwell

July 24th, 2022

(Episode 48)

"I have given symbols..." Hosea 12:10

[Emmanuel commanded a judicial court to convene for the trial of Diabolonians who had been arrested in Mansoul. The first brought before the bar was Diabulous's Alderman, Atheism. The second witness, Mr. Tell-True, testified about Atheism to the town-clerk, Mr. Do-Right, saying, "I have often heard him say, and that with very great, perverse stubbornness, that he believed there was neither God, angel, nor spirit."]

CLERK. "Where did you hear him say so?"

TELL. "In Blackmouth Lane and in Blasphemer's Row, and in many other places besides."

CLERK. "Have you much knowledge of him?"

TELL. "I know him to be a Diabolonian, the son of a Diabolonian, and a horrible man to deny a Deity. His father's name was Never-be-good, and he had more children than this Atheism. I have no more to say."

CLERK. "Mr. Hate-Lies, look upon the prisoner at the bar; do you know him?"

HATE. "My lord, this Atheism is one of the vilest wretches whom I had ever come across, or had to do with in my life. I have heard him say that there is no God; I have heard him say that there is no world to come, no sin, nor punishment hereafter, and, moreover, I have heard him say that it was as good to go to a brothel as it was to hear a Bible sermon."

CLERK. "Where did you hear him say these things?"

HATE. "In Drunkard's Row, just at Rascal-Lane's End, at a house in which Mr. Impiety lived."

CLERK. "Set him aside, jail keeper, and set Mr. Lustings to the bar. Mr. Lustings, you are here indicted by the name of Lustings, an intruder upon the town of Mansoul, for you have devilishly and traitorously taught, by practice and filthy words, that it is lawful and profitable for man to give in to his carnal desires; and that you, for your part, have not, nor never will, deny yourself of any sinful delight as long as your name is Lustings. How say you? Are you guilty of this indictment, or not?"

Then said Mr. Lustings, "My lord, I am a man of high birth, and have always enjoyed pleasures and pastimes of greatness. I am not accustomed to being snubbed for my doings, but have been left to follow my will as if it were law. And it seems strange to me that I should this day be called into question for that, that not only I, but almost all men, do either secretly or openly countenance, love, and approve of."

CLERK. "Sir, we are not concerned with your greatness; though the higher you were, the better you should have been; but we are concerned, and so are you now, about an indictment preferred against you. How say you? Are you guilty of it, or not?"

LUST. "Not guilty."

CLERK. "Crier, call upon the witnesses to stand forth and give their evidence."

CRIER. "Gentlemen, you, the witnesses for the King, come in and give your evidence for our Lord the King against the prisoner at the bar."

CLERK. "Come, Mr. Know-All, look upon the prisoner at the bar. Do you know him?"

KNOW. "Yes, my lord, I know him."

CLERK. "What is his name?"

KNOW. "His name is Lustings. He was the son of one Beastly, and his mother bore him on Flesh Street; she was the daughter of Evil-Desire (Col 3:5). I knew all the generation of them."

CLERK. "Well said. You have heard his indictment; what say you to it? Is he guilty of the things charged against him, or not?"

KNOW. "My lord, he has, as he said, been a great man indeed, and greater in wickedness than by pedigree more than a thousand fold."

CLERK. "But what do you know of his particular actions, and especially with reference to his indictment?"

KNOW. "I know him to be a liar, a Sabbath-breaker, and one who swears freely with profanities. I know him to be a fornicator and an unclean person; I know him also to be guilty of an abundance of evils. He has been, to my knowledge, a very filthy man."

CLERK. "But where did he use to commit his wickedness, in some private corners, or more open and shamelessly?"

KNOW. "All over the town, my lord."

CLERK. "Come, Mr. Tell-True, what have you to say for our Lord the King against the prisoner at the bar?"

TELL. "My lord, all the first witness has said I know to be true, and a great deal more besides."

CLERK. "Mr. Lustings, do you hear what these gentlemen say?"

LUST. "I was always of the opinion that the happiest life a man could live on earth was to withhold nothing he desired in the world; nor have I been false at any time to this opinion of mine, but have lived in the love of

my notions all my days. Nor was I ever so selfish, having found such sweetness in them myself, as to not commend them to others.”

COURT. Then said the Court, “Enough has proceeded from his own mouth to openly condemn him. Therefore, set him aside, jail keeper, and set Mr. Incredulity to the bar.”

Incredulity set to the bar.

CLERK. “Mr. Incredulity, you are here indicted by the name of Incredulity, an intruder upon the town of Mansoul, for you have feloniously and wickedly acted as an officer in the town of Mansoul, and led resistance against the captains of the great King, Shaddai, when they came and demanded possession of Mansoul. Yes, you ordered defiance to the name, forces, and cause of the King, and moreover, as did Diabulous your captain, stirred up and encouraged the town of Mansoul to oppose and resist the said force of the King. What do you say to this indictment? Are you guilty of it, or not?”

Then said Incredulity, “I don’t know Shaddai. I love my old prince; I thought it my duty to be true to my trust, and to do what I could to possess the minds of the men of Mansoul to do their utmost to resist strangers and foreigners, and with might, to fight against them. Nor have I, nor shall I, change my opinion for fear of trouble, though you currently possess place and power.”

COURT. Then said the Court, “This man, as you see, is incorrigible. He maintains his villainies by stout words, and his rebellion with impudent confidence; and therefore, set him aside, jail keeper, and set Mr. Forget-Good to the bar.”

Forget-Good set to the bar.

CLERK. “Mr. Forget-Good, you are here indicted by the name of Forget-Good, an intruder upon the town of Mansoul, for you, when the whole affairs of the town of Mansoul were in your hand, utterly forgot to serve them in what was good, and fell in with the tyrant Diabulous against Shaddai the King, against His captains, and all His host, to the dishonor of Shaddai, the breach of His law, and endangered the famous town of Mansoul with destruction. What do you say to this indictment? Are you guilty or not guilty?”

Then said Forget-Good...

To Be Continued...