

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

TITLE: The Trojan Horse

OBJECT: A wooden horse

DOCTRINE: Regeneration

STORY WITH THE OBJECT

We have all heard the legend of how the Greeks conquered the city of Troy. The Greeks constructed a huge wooden horse and hid a select force of soldiers inside. The Trojans pulled the horse into their city as a victory trophy. That night the Greek force crept out of the horse and opened the gates for the rest of the Greek army. The Greeks entered and destroyed the city of Troy, decisively ending the war. The city was conquered and destroyed because they did not see the enemy. The enemy in the wooden horse brought death.

TRANSITION TO THE SPIRITUAL

How many men look at their own condition today and say they are good? They see nothing wrong. But the truth is that inside of us we have an enemy which will bring death.

THE PROBLEM (LAW)

We lie, steal, lust, hate, we are selfish, we fornicate, and we blaspheme the Holy name of God. Sin comes into our life disguised as something good. It looks good and feels good. But when we least expect it, it opens the doors to more enemies and destroys us from the inside out.

THE CONSEQUENCES (ETERNITY)

The wages of sin is death, not only physical death, but also spiritual death. This means because we have sin inside of us, we cannot enter God's presence. He is Holy. Jesus said we will be cast down into a place where there is weeping and separation from God, place of eternal fire, pain and torment. There is no escape. We and our wooden horse will burn forever.

THE SOLUTION (CROSS)

Just like the Trojan horse, God knows we have a hidden enemy inside each one of us, and if we are not changed, it will destroy us forever. Jesus Christ came to this earth and he knew no sin. He was killed on the cross and rose from the dead to destroy the power of sin in our lives. The sin that is in you will bring death, but He can give life. He wants to be born again inside of you and give you eternal life.

THE CALL (REPENTANCE AND FAITH)

He commands you to do two things: Repent and surrender control of your life to Jesus. Say, "Jesus, I know the sin in my heart will kill me, but I believe you died on the cross to give me life. Come and live inside of me and change me. I know if I have you, I have eternal life and victory over sin." Choose life; choose Jesus today.