

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE

TITLE: Diary

OBJECT: A diary

DOCTRINE: Substitution

STORY WITH THE OBJECT

One day I decided to write a diary about my life. I spent hours writing down everything I could remember about what I had done in my life. I wrote about good things, bad things, things in my heart that no one knew about but me, the times I had lied, the times I was envious of others, my impure desires, jealousy, and times I had stolen. When I was finished, I put my diary on the table, but when I returned later on, it was gone! It was terrible! I looked everywhere for it and was afraid that whoever would read my diary would know everything I had ever done, and all of my secrets. I didn't sleep for three nights, and I never found it.

TRANSITION TO THE SPIRITUAL

Each one of us has a diary in which we are writing every secret, everything we do in public and everything we do in private. Every thought, word, and deed is being written down during each moment of our lives.

THE PROBLEM (LAW)

The day we die, our diaries will be opened and everyone will see what we have done. What is written in your diary?

THE CONSEQUENCES (ETERNITY)

Like me, if you have written lies, theft, impure thoughts, jealousy, fornication in your diary, you will not be able to enter heaven with God, and will spend eternity far from him in a place of eternal torment. Does your eternal destination worry you?

THE SOLUTION (CROSS)

Today I have good news that there is a man whose diary reflects a perfect life. His diary shows only good things: love, mercy, and forgiveness. This perfect man, Jesus Christ, died on a cross and gave his life to switch his perfect diary for yours and mine filled with sin.

THE CALL (REPENTANCE AND FAITH)

But to switch diaries, you must ask him to forgive everything you have written in your diary, for how you have lived your life. Secondly, you must surrender your life to Him. Call out to Jesus and ask him to take your sinful life in exchange for his perfect one. Then you will be welcomed into heaven!