

BLATANT, CONCRETE, OBVIOUS, OBVIOUSLY

The herdmen of Gerar claimed the well Isaac had dug belonged to them (even though it very **obviously** did not).

- **Genesis 26:19-20:** "And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water. And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying, The water is ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him."

Jacob told Rachel and Leah that he had served their father with all his power. (This was a **blatant** lie. Jacob had been using clever genetic tricks to take Laban's livestock for many years.)

- **Genesis 31:6:** "And ye know that with all my power I have served your father."

Three months after Judah had sex with his daughter-in-law Tamar, it became **obvious** that Tamar was pregnant. (That's when everyone found out that Judah was the father.)

- **Genesis 38:24:** "And it came to pass about three months after, that it was told Judah, saying, Tamar thy daughter in law hath played the harlot; and also, behold, she is with child by whoredom. And Judah said, Bring her forth, and let her be burnt."

After the taskmasters stopped giving the Israelites the supplies they needed to make bricks, for two days in a row

they failed to meet their brick quota (which was the **obvious** and expected outcome of Pharaoh's decision).

- **Exodus 5:14:** "And the officers of the children of Israel, which Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and demanded, Wherefore have ye not fulfilled your task in making brick both yesterday and to day, as heretofore?"

Under the Mosaic Law, if a husband claimed that his new bride wasn't a virgin, and the woman's father proved to the elders of the city that he was lying (by showing them the bloody cloth upon which her husband had taken her virginity), the elders of the city would chastise the man for lying about his wife. (The man **obviously** knew his wife was a virgin, because the act of taking her virginity was a bloody mess.)

- **Deuteronomy 22:13-15, 18:** "If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her, And give occasions of speech against her, and bring up an evil name upon her, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I found her not a maid: Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth the tokens of the damsel's virginity unto the elders of the city in the gate: ... And the elders of that city shall take that man and chastise him;"

The Levite's father-in-law didn't want the Levite to leave. He kept urging him to stay, even though the Levite was **obviously** trying to leave and return home.

- **Judges 19:5-8:** "And it came to pass on the fourth day, when they arose early in the morning, that he rose up to depart: and the damsel's father said unto his son in law,

Comfort thine heart with a morsel of bread, and afterward go your way. And they sat down, and did eat and drink both of them together: for the damsel's father had said unto the man, Be content, I pray thee, and tarry all night, and let thine heart be merry. And when the man rose up to depart, his father in law urged him: therefore he lodged there again. And he arose early in the morning on the fifth day to depart; and the damsel's father said, Comfort thine heart, I pray thee. And they tarried until afternoon, and they did eat both of them."

When the Israelites went too far punishing the Benjamites, they asked God why the Benjamites had been almost wiped out. (The answer to that question was **obvious**. It was because the Israelites did what was right in their own eyes, instead of inquiring of the Lord and obeying Him.)

- **Judges 21:3:** "And said, O LORD God of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be to day one tribe lacking in Israel?"

When Boaz approached his kinsman, he didn't start by talking about Ruth. Instead he brought up a piece of land that was being sold. (Boaz was laying a trap. When the kinsman expressed interest in the land but not in Ruth, it would become **obvious** that he lacked integrity.)

- **Ruth 4:3:** "And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, sellethe a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's:"

It seems the Philistines were deliberately trying to send the Ark of the Covenant back to Israel in as stupid as a way

possible so they could claim that God wasn't responsible for all the bad things that happened to them (even though it was **obvious** to everyone that He was indeed responsible).

- **1 Samuel 6:9:** "And see, if it goeth up by the way of his own coast to Bethshemesh, then he hath done us this great evil: but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand that smote us: it was a chance that happened to us."

Saul told Samuel that he had obeyed God and destroyed the Amalekites and all of their possessions, when he very **obviously** hadn't.

- **1 Samuel 15:13-14:** "And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD. And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?"

David wanted Saul to think that he hadn't attended Saul's meal because he went to a family sacrifice in Bethlehem, instead of the very **obvious** reason that he hadn't attended because Saul was trying to murder him.

- **1 Samuel 20:6:** "If thy father at all miss me, then say, David earnestly asked leave of me that he might run to Bethlehem his city: for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family."

David kept refusing to acknowledge the **obvious** fact that David was the rightful king of Israel *and Saul was not*, and Saul was trying to kill him so he could keep a throne that no longer

belonged to him. David kept referring to Saul as king (long after God rejected him from being king), and acted as if someone else had stirred up Saul against David (when Saul was the one stirring up everyone else against him).

- **1 Samuel 26:19:** "Now therefore, I pray thee, let my lord the king hear the words of his servant. If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an offering: but if they be the children of men, cursed be they before the LORD; for they have driven me out this day from abiding in the inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go, serve other gods."

There's no indication David was suspicious of Abner when he offered to betray Ishbosheth and make a league with him. (Since Abner had been waging war against David for years, this seems like an **obvious** trap.)

- **2 Samuel 3:12-13:** "And Abner sent messengers to David on his behalf, saying, Whose is the land? saying also, Make thy league with me, and, behold, my hand shall be with thee, to bring about all Israel unto thee. And he said, Well; I will make a league with thee: but one thing I require of thee, that is, Thou shalt not see my face, except thou first bring Michal Saul's daughter, when thou comest to see my face."

It seems Joab didn't know why Absalom had burned down his field (even though the answer should have been **obvious**).

- **2 Samuel 14:31:** "Then Joab arose, and came to Absalom unto his house, and said unto him, Wherefore have thy servants set my field on fire?"

Eliphaz claimed that as long as you were righteous, nothing bad could happen to you. (However, this was a childish position that was **obviously** wrong.)

- **Job 5:22:** "At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth."

Bildad claimed the lives of all wicked people were dramatically cut short. (This was a foolish position to take because it's **obviously** untrue.)

- **Job 8:12-13:** "Whilst it is yet in his greenness, and not cut down, it withereth before any other herb. So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish:"

Even though the things Job said (about life being full of suffering, even for the righteous) were **obviously** true, Eliphaz rejected all of them anyway.

- **Job 14:1-2:** "Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not."
- **Job 15:2:** "Should a wise man utter vain knowledge, and fill his belly with the east wind?"

When Job said that even the righteous suffered (which is **obviously** true), Eliphaz condemned his words as nothing more than lies.

- **Job 15:5:** "For thy mouth uttereth thine iniquity, and thou choosest the tongue of the crafty."

Eliphaz mocked Job by asking him if he was the only person in the world who had any wisdom (because Job made the **obvious** point that sometimes the righteous suffer even though they're innocent).

- **Job 15:8:** "Hast thou heard the secret of God? and dost thou restrain wisdom to thyself?"

Eliphaz had a childish view of the world. He claimed the wicked always suffered and the righteous never suffered, which is **obviously** wrong.

- **Job 15:20:** "The wicked man travaileth with pain all his days, and the number of years is hidden to the oppressor."

Job pointed out that sometimes the wicked lead happy and prosperous lives and die in peace. This is **obvious**, and yet his three friends stubbornly rejected this truth and insisted that such things didn't happen (which proved they were fools).

- **Job 21:9:** "Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them."

Eliphaz claimed that bad things only happened to bad people, and good things only happened to good people. (This was a foolish thing to say, since it's **obviously** not true.)

- **Job 22:18-19:** "Yet he filled their houses with good things: but the counsel of the wicked is far from me. The righteous see it, and are glad: and the innocent laugh them to scorn."

Job believed the things he said were **obviously** true and couldn't be disputed by anyone. (Yet his friends continued to insist that the wicked never prospered and the righteous never suffered.)

- **Job 24:25:** "And if it be not so now, who will make me a liar, and make my speech nothing worth?"

The reason some people can't understand **obvious** spiritual truths is because God has hardened their heart so they're incapable of understanding it.

- **Isaiah 44:18:** "They have not known nor understood: for he hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand."

When God's judgment came upon Jerusalem, it would be **obvious** to everyone that the false prophets were liars.

- **Ezekiel 13:12:** "Lo, when the wall is fallen, shall it not be said unto you, Where is the daubing wherewith ye have daubed it?"

It should have been **obvious** to the nations that they needed to obey God if they didn't want to be destroyed. However, instead of doing that they corrupted themselves, so God was going to punish them.

- **Zephaniah 3:7-8:** "I said, Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them: but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings. Therefore wait ye upon

me, saith the Lord, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy."

The sins of the Jews were **obvious** to God and greatly angered Him. However, the Jews didn't think they were sinning at all. God had to point out their sins (which were blatant violations of the Mosaic Law.)

- **Malachi 3:13:** "Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?"

In the day of judgment it will become **obvious** who God is for (the righteous) and who God is against (the wicked).

- **Malachi 3:17-18:** "And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not."

In the parable of the tares, both the wheat and the tares were allowed to grow until the harvest time. That's when it would be **obvious** which were wheat and which were tares.

- **Matthew 13:29-30:** "But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first

the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."

Those who claim that Jesus has returned in secret are liars, because the return of Jesus will be like lightning. It will be **obvious** and impossible to miss.

- **Matthew 24:26-27:** "Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Cleopas thought the topic of their conversation (the crucifixion of Jesus) was **obvious**, and only a stranger would be unaware of recent events.

- **Luke 24:18-20:** "And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him."

The man who was born blind told the Jews that since Jesus opened his eyes, it was **obvious** that Jesus came from God. (No one else had the power to do such astounding miracles.)

- **John 9:30-33:** "The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from

whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. If this man were not of God, he could do nothing."

The people who led Jesus to Pilate had nothing to say when he asked them what accusation was being made against Jesus. They weren't prepared to answer that **obvious** and simple question, and could only say vaguely that He was a bad person. (This is more evidence that His trial was done hastily.)

- **John 18:29-30:** "Pilate then went out unto them, and said, What accusation bring ye against this man? They answered and said unto him, If he were not a malefactor, we would not have delivered him up unto thee."

It seems Paul couldn't see the high priest, even though he would have been **obvious** and easy to spot. (This is evidence that Paul had exceptionally poor eyesight.)

- **Acts 23:5:** "Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people."

Paul told the Corinthian church that it should be **obvious** that it's not good for women to pray with their head uncovered.

- **1 Corinthians 11:13:** "Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?"

Paul told the Corinthian church that it should be **obvious** that men shouldn't have long hair.

- **1 Corinthians 11:14:** "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?"

When Paul had his vision of Heaven, he didn't immediately tell everyone about it or try to use the experience to make a lot of money. Instead he kept it a secret. He only referred to it with great reluctance, and refused to give any details about what he saw. (This is very different from the "Heaven tourism" books that are released on a regular basis, which seem to be **obvious** frauds.)

- **2 Corinthians 12:2-4:** "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter."

Paul didn't think it was unreasonable to say that the church needed to be blameless. He didn't think that was a ridiculous standard which was **obviously** impossible for any church to ever meet. He also never said that since it was impossible to be blameless, churches should do the best they could and that would be fine.

- **Philippians 2:15:** "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;"

The sins of some people are **obvious** and can be easily seen. However, the sins of others aren't obvious and may remain hidden their entire lives. (However, everything will be revealed in the coming judgment.)

- **1 Timothy 5:24:** "Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after."

The good works of some people are **obvious** and can be easily seen. However, the good works of others aren't obvious and may remain hidden their entire lives. (However, everything will be revealed in the coming judgment.)

- **1 Timothy 5:25:** "Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid."

One day the folly of false teachers and evildoers will become **obvious**.

- **2 Timothy 3:8-9:** "Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as their's also was."

There are **obvious** differences between those who are truly saved and those who aren't.

- **1 John 1:6-7:** "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if

we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

- **1 John 1:8-9:** "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
- **1 John 1:10:** "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."
- **1 John 2:4-5:** "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him."
- **1 John 2:10-11:** "He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes."
- **1 John 2:15:** "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."
- **1 John 2:19:** "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us."
- **1 John 2:22-23:** "Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son

hath the Father also."

- **1 John 3:6-9:** "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."
- **1 John 3:15:** "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him."
- **1 John 4:7-8:** "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."
- **1 John 4:20:** "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"
- **1 John 5:10:** "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son."
- **1 John 5:18-19:** "We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness."