

Devotional
1 September 2011

A dog is a horrible liar even though the Bible pretty well considers the animal in general a quarrelsome scavenger, thief, murderer and downright fornicating beast. They may be all of the above but they can't lie. They wear their emotions on their face and therefore the truth is always evident in their nature. It's a lie on our part to say a dog can play poker. That famous velvet painting or not, a creature who can't lie can't play a card game for profit. So, to see a group of dogs wearing cowboy regalia puzzling over some pasteboards just won't happen. A dog isn't a liar.

Though the Bible is right on the truth, in the book of Revelation, chapter 22, where it says dogs are those who "practice magic arts." I have seen many a dog with its face in perfect mute unwavering concentration, stare at a door, fence, or person, willing a human to provide for them something they wouldn't ordinarily do. They practice doggie mind control on humans; I'm sure, with thought incantation where they get their mind to inhabit people so the canine gets scratched, fed treats, and allowed out of its pen to create damage in the neighborhood. I've asked dogs if they practice mind control and because they can't lie they just smile at you and the truth is clearly evident in their countenance.

Why the Bible goes on about all of a dog's bad habits is beyond me. Because dogs can't be liars like some humans I know, they are great sociable team players. Since they can't lie to your face to avoid work they have to put in a full eight hours a day or more when you ask them to be part of the team. The fat lazy dog only gets that way because no one asks for and demands work from them. For a dog it is service above self; it's in their nature. The dog knows its job is to be part of the team. To offer assistance at all times. To be out front protecting the rest of its team from the evil that lurks around corners and in dark places. A dog will offer assistance without asking. Now that's all the truth about a dog. They are great elements in any team. Yet they add even more. They are the perfect wingman for they always have your back and their goal is to keep everyone together in harmony. They know a lie destroys the harmony of the team. Mistrust and fights are built around lies or not doing what is expected of you which is in itself a lie. That's why dogs work so hard to make everyone happy. They hate liars and the effect of their lies. If you lie to a dog they will hide their face in shame.

Oh, dogs have a bad side to them. The Bible says so when it uses the dog to describe a person's behavior or social station. The Bible is quick to point out that humans have a bad side like the dog which in proportion to the dog is much worse. The evil in a human can cause oh so much damage, cruelty, and hate. Yet it is the Bible which talks about how all humans can be saints and forgiven. The Bible helps us see the perfection we seek in ourselves and others so we can see ourselves as God sees us. So if God can forgive our bad natures and see the best in us, and we can forgive those in our midst which show signs of disharmony in the team, I think we should forgive the dog for all its misgivings. If we serve one another in truth we can overcome any obstacle. For deep down inside we know we all have a bit of the dog within us and when the Bible talks about the dog it is talking about us. To be forgiven places us back in the truth so that we can develop a constant inner integrity.

We should practice mind control on one another and focus on how to get others to do good and to be of service to the team. Go focus and stare at somebody until they do good.