



## The Gnat and the Camel

Sin makes a sinner. Not the other way around. It's no mystery. But which is the gnat and which is the camel? Hold yourself and *others* as innocent of the sin making process and you will easily answer that question. Jesus gave us more than a hint. His parable about gnats and camels explains.

The gnat is what we call a physical object. The camel is an evil belief. Jesus gives more weight in his parable to the camel. Why? "Delusion....which, from a supposed standpoint outside the focal distance of infinite Spirit, presents an inverted image of Mind with everything turned upside down." (S&H) Instead of defining objects as the physical, call *evil beliefs* physical. Both fear and self-justification are types of evil beliefs.

So how does sin try to make us believe that we create sin or even worse, that God, good, creates a sinner? Well, that's what an evil belief *pretends*. It seems to put us in a false process as though we are a creator whereas God is the only Creator. Sin really could not and did not create a sinner. That's where self-justification or envy or fear or something else comes into the picture. It's a camel-like delusion wanting to be swallowed.

Such beliefs attempt to make you or someone guilty. Remember, knowing you are innocent – that you are not actually involved in a process of creating a sinner is a must. The body is innocent. Jesus was innocent. He had no self-justification. Guilt holds the sinner as though in a false process of creating a sin until innocence is realized. Only when innocence is realized can gnats and camels be separated. Gnats relate to body, objects, and things. Camels relate to self-justification, self-will, and self-love – the adamant of error. (See S&H)

The thought that says, "I stand on principle and they don't" is often an adamant of error. It can swallow camels – the three adamants. And in so doing creates its own sinner.

And that is why it is so important to declare your innocence – knowingly to declare innocence for yourself is a first step to do the same for others. Don't be afraid of doing this. Fear is but an evil belief, which, like self-justification would if it could, hold you in a false process.

We know that Jesus was innocent. He had no revenge, fear, envy, depraved will or anything. He was the Way Shower. He took a body. He never accepted the process that a sinner creates sin. He held others as innocent and did not condemn. He gave us the correct view of gnats and camels.

Do gnats have to be strained? Yes! Things need to be seen in divine Science as thoughts. But more importantly, evil beliefs, camels should not be swallowed. The kingdom of heaven will then be recognized as present. Evil beliefs or the physical, put off, the spiritual fact appears. Get to reality quickly!

Innocence should always be declared even when not fully understood or fully believed to be true. A goal is to **consciously** uncover a false process of belief.

Should you want to pursue this line of reasoning further, see the third tenet of Christian Science? The last line is: "But the belief in sin is punished so long as the belief lasts."

***Quotations from (S&H) are from Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy.***



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