Sin In Disguise
Rom. 7:11-13

Introduction:
A. We have little trouble defining sin. (cf. 1 John 3:4; 5:17).
B. We have more trouble identifying sin - does not always appear as sin. (vv. 11, 13)
  1. Murder may appear to be service to God. (John 16:2).
  2. Iniquity (lawlessness) may appear to be “wonderful works” (Matt. 7:21-23)
C. We need to look at some other ways that sin can be disguised as good:

Discussion:
I. Lust Often Masquerades as Love.
   A. Biblical love is natural and beautiful. (1 Cor. 7 cf. Abraham & Sarah, Jacob & Rachel, Joseph & Mary).
   B. Lust is ugly and unnatural. (cf. Rom. 1:26,27—David & Bathsheba.)
II. Laziness, Procrastination, And/Or Cowardice Often Masquerades as Caution and Wisdom.
   A. Caution is needed. (1 Cor. 10:12; Heb. 3:12).
   B. Laziness often disguised as caution. (Matt. 25:25,26; Prov. 26:13-14).
III. Covetousness Often Masquerades as Stewardship.
   A. Christians are to be good stewards, not wasteful. (cf. Luke 15:13).
   B. Christians are not to be greedy or misers. (Col. 3:5; Rich Fool).
IV. Contentiousness Often Masquerades as “Contending for the Faith”.
   A. Christians are to contend for faith. (Jude 3).
   B. Christians are not to just be contentious. (2 Tim. 2:14, 23-26).
V. Permissiveness Often Masquerades as Longsuffering.
   A. Are to be longsuffering and forbearing. (Eph. 4:3).
   B. Are not to be permissive. (2 Tim. 4:1-4; Eph. 5:11)
VI. Vengeance Often Masquerades as Discipline.
   A. Discipline is needed in home, society and church.
   B. Christians are not to take vengeance. (Rom. 12:19-21).
VII. Self-Will Often Masquerades as Conviction.
   A. Must have strong convictions. (Eph. 6:10-20).
   B. Must not be self-willed. (2 Pet. 2:10; Tit. 1:17) —Easy to confuse the two.
VIII. Meddling Often Masquerades as Concern.
   A. Need to be concerned and watchful toward brethren.
   B. Must not be busybodies. (2 Thess. 3:11; 1 Pet. 4:15).

Conclusion:
A. Let us be aware of the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 3:13).
B. Let us be honest with ourselves — do harbor sin under another name.