

stratum all the rattle snakes are black; if you are on a red one, they are all red. They have a coloration that fits with the background. You take a caterpillar and when it goes into a cocoon on a plant, the same caterpillars exactly may go into different kinds of plants and they will look exactly like the plant, so that you can hardly recognize it. There is a deception of the animal that would like to eat the caterpillar. There is a deception ~~of the~~ by making it seem to be a part of the plant. That is something that the Lord has put in nature in order to protect against that which would injure it. It is certainly not a lie; it is not verbal and it is not to secure an ~~improper~~ improper advantage for oneself. But it is deception.

Now an interesting case mentioned by another is when David fled and Michael his wife put bedclothes in the bed and ~~made it look like~~ covered them up to make it look like a body there so that when people looked in they thought David was still there and it was sometime before they discovered it. There is a definite case of deception ~~and~~ on the part of the wife of one of God's people in order to save his life. Certainly no one could say that there is anything wrong in that I wouldn't think.

The case of 73-4² is perhaps a little more difficult I would think. E _____ came into the king saying he had a message for him and gave him every pretense of coming on a friendly errand and getting people out and then pulled out his sword and killed him. There is a case where it is a little more difficult ~~that~~ but E _____ was certainly not a prophet. He certainly was not one who would necessarily be an example to us whatever are the rights and wrongs of it.

David pretended to be mad ~~in~~ among the Philistines. Many of you mentioned this. I was very glad to see it. It is a case of deception practised by a prophet of God. David pretended to be mad and he went through all this--made himself look as if he were out of his mind and thereby he caused the lords of the Philistines