

"Coyotes on the Loose?"

March 14, 2004



The other day I was driving past the athletic fields of Wellesley College when lo and behold I spotted two coyotes standing right in the middle of the soccer field. About two hours later, I went driving past the same athletic fields and lo and behold, there were those same two coyotes standing in the exact same spot in the exact same pose ... hmmmmm ...

As it turns out, they were fake - decoys - set up by the maintenance department to scare off the Canadian geese. Canadian geese, while pretty to look out, leave reminders of their presence that are not so pretty to step on!

Well, I wasn't the only one fooled. According to our local newspaper, the college has received "some hysterical phone calls from frightened passersby." However, besides keeping the geese away, they have also developed value as a prank. Again, according to the newspaper, "rumor has it that one of the

heads was stolen one evening and may be lurking in a dorm room somewhere on campus."

It's interesting to me that Jesus has something to say about a situation very similar to this. Jesus says in the Sermon on the Mount, "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves" (Matt. 7: 15).

We have a saying, "what you see is what you get" but honestly, that's not always true. Like "pretend" coyotes, there are clergy and lay people who appear to be good Christians but inwardly, they despise what the Bible teaches and try to change it to fit their own needs. Nowhere is that seen more clearly than in the current gay marriage debate where clergy argue that the Bible teaches homosexuality is pleasing to God!

So the next time you hear someone say, "the Bible says so" - check it out for yourself. Don't be fooled by fake coyotes.