

Promise Keepers; Rattlesnakes, Mustangs, & Mules

In our episode near the Arkansas River there are a number of outside adversaries as well as some on the inside.

There is nothing more arrogant or cantankerous than a mule, especially a self-righteous mule. Now if there was an outside adversary which should have earned the ire of the self-righteous mule it would be the den of rattlesnakes which were biting at the heels of his fellow mules. But instead, his attention is distracted by the appearance of a licentious wild mustang colt who sought to become cordial with the *“loose stock.”*

You would think that the sheer numbers of the snakes would command his attention but one mustang with trends opposite the self-righteous mule’s and he is off to badger and chastise. But then there is the antinomian mule who has trends similar to those of the colt and who comes to his defense by attacking his own fellow mule.

Assuming all along that the self-righteous mule shared his trends of licentiousness, the antinomian mule attacks his brother. The self-righteous mule obviously was outraged that a licentious colt would come calling on his fellow trail mates.

The real threat is the rattlesnakes which is being exacerbated by the disturbance among the two mules and the mustang colt. The pioneers quieted the cacophony by dispatching the colt while the vanguard completed its genocide of the snake infestation ... what you might call Operation Prairie Storm.

Restoration of order was the primary objective while protection of necessary livestock was the secondary objective. Absence of the Brady Bill, the Wild Horse Preservation Act, or a Frontier Trail Guidance Counselor made it possible to solve the problem without a five-day waiting period, an environmental impact study, or post-skirmish syndrome therapy.

But how do you analyze and subdue such skirmishes which break out in a local church? What are the causes and what are the solutions? These are the subjects resolved in our next study: