

# **Deception**

**An in-depth Bible study by Pastor Steve Akers**

**Word** AND **Power**  
**MINISTRIES**

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# DECEPTION

Matt 24:3-12 - 23,24

**Definition: deceive (From Strong's** - to cause to stray, to lead astray, lead aside from the right way, wander, roam about to lead away from the truth, to lead into error - one led astray from the right way, wrong opinion relative to morals or religion, error which shows itself in action, a wrong mode of acting, error, that which leads into error, deceit or fraud

**(from Websters)** - to make (a person) believe what is not true; delude; mislead, to be false to; betray, to use deceit; lie - SYN.

**deceive** implies deliberate misrepresentation of facts by words, actions, etc., generally to further one's ends;

**mislead** is to cause to follow the wrong course or to err in conduct or action, although not always by deliberate deception [misled by the sign into going to the wrong floor];

**beguile** implies the use of wiles and enticing prospects in deceiving or misleading [beguiled by promises of a fortune];

**delude** is to fool someone so completely that what is false is accepted as being true;

**betray** implies a breaking of faith while appearing to be loyal

## IF YOU ARE DECEIVED, WILL YOU KNOW IT?

### WHO CAN BE DECEIVED? Anyone! -

Matt 24:24 *"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect."* - (*Elect: chosen*)

**Deceive - To be led away from the truth so you will lead other from the Truth - Matt 23:13**

### THREE SOURCES OF DECEPTION

#### SOURCE NO.1 - THE DEVIL

Questions what God said - doubt, unbelief lead to disobedience, rebellion

Gen. 3:4-5 The devil deceived Eve by convincing her to believe a lie. He interjected a question, which is the initial trigger, the start of doubt.

Gen. 3:1, Hath God said? The devil will always tempt you with a question or a thought that will always lead to satisfying the flesh.

Gen. 3:5,6, Eve saw it was good for food, pleasant to the eyes, and desired to make her wise, she gave in to the flesh and the lie of the devil. Her mistake was she did not stay in the spirit and on the Word of God, which said,

Gen. 2:17 *"Thou shalt not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil"*, We must never allow anything to move us from God's Word.

Gal. 5:16 - The result is spiritual death, separation from God.

By choices

I Tim. 4:1 *"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;"* - Seduce: persuade to do something evil or disobedient

Teaching that which God does not teach.

II Cor. 11:14 *"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore [it is] no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."*

**Brings satisfaction to the flesh** - feeds the senses, taste, feel, sight, smell, hearing

1 John 2:16 For all that [is] in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

I Cor. 15:10

**Being more than God intended - pride, self-promotion**

Gal. 6:3 *"For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."*

Rom. 12:3 *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly that he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."* - Grace: Unmerited favor, which means unearnable, undeserved -Soberly: with a sound mind, with self-control of our desires, impulses or passions.

## SOURCE NO. 2 - MAN

Jer 17:9,10

Jesus cautioned His disciples in Matt. 24:4, "Take heed that no man deceive you." Take heed means to pay attention, be on guard, watch, be careful. In other words they were to keep alert because many men would try and deceive them.

Harken: Deut 28:1 - To hear with the intent of doing

John 14:6

### Listening to man over the truth of God

**Truth:** - objectively, what is true in any matter under consideration, what is true in things appertaining to God and the duties of man, moral and religious truth, that candour of mind which is free from affection, pretense, simulation, falsehood, deceit

Mark 7:13

Unprejudiced, impartial, unconditional

- Roma 16:18 "For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches **deceive** the hearts of the simple."
- Colo 2:8 "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."
- II Pet. 2:1 "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."
- 2Cor 11:13 "For such [are] false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ."

### Vain (empty) words

- Eph. 5:6 "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience."
- Tit. 1:10-11 "For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake." -  
Circumcision: represents, tradition of man, religion, doctrine and commandments of men.
-  I Tim 4:7 "But refuse and avoid irreverent legends - profane and impure and godless fictions, mere grandmothers' tales - and silly myths, and express your disapproval of them. Train yourself toward godliness (piety) - keeping yourself spiritually fit." (Amp)  
(BE TEACHABLE - BUT STAY SHARP)

## How does man deceive?

1. Through man's lips - Pro 24:28
2. Flattery - Pro. 29:5, 7:21, Psa 12:2,3 - (to encourage falsely, gratify the vanity)
3. Trust in man's strength - Jer 17:5
4. False prophesy - Jer 29:8,9
5. Wrong motives - Matt 15:18-19
6. Claiming to be Christ - Matt 24:4,5
7. By signs and wonders - Matt 24:24, II Thes 2:9
8. Commandment of men for doctrine - Mark 7:6,7
9. Fair speeches - Rom 16:18
10. Subtilty - II Cor 11:3
11. Minds corrupted - II Cor 11:3
12. Good works (not God works) - II Cor 11:13
13. Winds of Doctrine - Eph 4:14
14. Sleight of men - Eph 4:14
15. Cunning craftiness - Eph 4:14
16. Vain words - Eph 5:6, Titus 1:10
17. Witchcraft - Jud. 16:20, I Kings 21:6,7, Eph 5:19-21, Control, manipulation and intimidation
18. Tradition - Col 2:8
19. Philosophy - Col 2:8
20. Fear of the end - II Thes 2:1-3
21. Seducing spirits - I Tim 4:1
22. Doctrine of devils - I Tim 4:1
23. Lying- Jer 9:4,5, I Time 4:2
24. Profane and old wives tales - I Tim 4:7
25. Vain talkers - Titus 1:11
26. Teaching heresies - II Pet 2:1
27. Saying sin I OK - I John 3:6-8

## SOURCE NO. 3 - SELF

### Not doing the Word you hear.

Jam. 1:22 "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." (**Application**)

### Not bridling our own tongue, deceiving our heart

Jam. 1:26 "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion [is] vain. " Religion here represents one who fears God

Psal 34:13 "Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile." Guile= deceit or treachery

Double minded  
Doubt  
No Works

### Thinking we are something when we are not

Gala 6:3 "For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

Rom. 12:3 "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly that he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

1Cor. 10:12 "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (**Pride**)

Sound mind, right mind

### Calling the things of God, evil

Isa. 5:20-23 "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto [them that are] wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

Rom 3:23 - All have sinned

### Saying we have no sin

I John 1:8 "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

### Unstable

(be child like not childish)

Eph. 4:14 "That we [henceforth] be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, [and] cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive"

### Not trying the spirits

I John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

How do we try the spirits: Matt. 12:33 - by their fruit and the Word

Bad relations help bring confusion and evil works

**Fruit:** - Matt 3:10  
Matt 7:17-20  
John 15:16

### Not continuing in God's word and ways

II Tim. 3:14-15 "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned [them]; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

One example: Samson - Jud 13 - 16:20

- Did not obey God's command
- Did not do the Word
- Forgot who he was in and by God
- Gave into temptation (tempted three times)

### Not sowing properly

Gala 6:7-9 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

### Dealing with Deceivers

Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

Rom 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

2Jn 1:7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

2Jn 1:8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

### Dealing with Deceivers - (cont'd)

- 2Jn 1:9 *Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.*
- 2Jn 1:10 *If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:*
- 2Jn 1:11 *For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.*
- 1Ti 6:5 *Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.*

### Devices -

- Job 5:12 *He disappointeth the devices of the crafty, so that their hands cannot perform their enterprise.*
- Job 5:13 *He taketh the wise in their own craftiness: and the counsel of the froward is carried headlong.*
- Isa 32:6 *For the vile person will speak villany, and his heart will work iniquity, to practise hypocrisy, and to utter error against the LORD, to make empty the soul of the hungry, and he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail.*
- Isa 32:7 *The instruments also of the churl are evil: he deviseth wicked devices to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speaketh right.*
- 2Co 2:11 *Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*

FORGIVE

### Some results of Deception -

- 2Co 11:3 *But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.*
- Gal 3:1 *O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?*
- Gal 4:9 *But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?*
- Col 2:18 *Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,*
- 2Ti 3:1 *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*
- 2Ti 3:2 *For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*
- 2Ti 3:3 *Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*
- 2Ti 3:4 *Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;*
- 2Ti 3:5 *Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*
- 2Ti 3:6 *For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,*
- 2Ti 3:7 *Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

**Jesus said to us as Believers, "Take heed and be not deceived!"**