

DECEPTION THROUGH AND THROUGH

1. Our Natural State

TITUS 3:3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

2. The World's Natural State

JER 9:6 "You live in the midst of deception; in their deceit they refuse to acknowledge me," declares the LORD.

DECEIVED BY...

1. Ourselves

JOB 15:31 Let him not deceive himself by trusting what is worthless, for he will get nothing in return.

JER 37:9 "This is what the LORD says: Do not deceive yourselves, thinking, 'The Babylonians will surely leave us.' They will not!

JER 49:16 "The terror you inspire and the pride of your heart have deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks, who occupy the heights of the hill. Though you build your nest as high as the eagle's, from there I will bring you down," declares the LORD.

OBA 1:3 The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?'

1CO 3:18 Do not deceive yourselves. If any one of you thinks he is wise by the standards of this age, he should become a "fool" so that he may become wise.

GAL 6:3 If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

2. Satan & His Forces

GEN 3:13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

1SA 28:12 When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out at the top of her voice and said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul!"

JOH 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

2CO 11:3 But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

2CO 11:14 And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

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- 1TI 2:14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.
- 1TI 4:1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.
- REV 13:14a Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth.
- REV 20:3, 8 He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time...and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth – Gog and Magog – to gather them for battle.
- REV 20:10 And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

3. Sin

- ROM 7:11 For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me to death.
- 2TH 2:10 ...and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

4. Not Acknowledging Our Sin

- 1JO 1:8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

5. False Leaders & Prophets

- JER 29:8 Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have.”
- MIC 2:11 If a liar and deceiver comes and says, 'I will prophesy for you plenty of wine and beer,' he would be just the prophet for this people!
- MAT 24:5 For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.
- MAT 24:11 ...and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.
- MAT 24:24 For false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect--if that were possible.
- ROM 16:18 For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.
- EPH 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.
- COL 2:4 I tell you this so that no one may deceive you by fine-sounding arguments.
- 2TI 3:13 ...while evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.
- TIT 1:10 For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group.

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2JO 1:7 Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist.

6. Not Acting On God's Word

JAM 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

JAM 1:26 If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

7. Friends

JER 9:4-5 "Beware of your friends; do not trust your brothers. For every brother is a deceiver, and every friend a slanderer. Friend deceives friend, and no one speaks the truth. They have taught their tongues to lie; they weary themselves with sinning."

OBA 1:7 All your allies will force you to the border; your friends will deceive and overpower you; those who eat your bread will set a trap for you, but you will not detect it.

8. Trusted Advisors

2SA 3:25 "You know Abner son of Ner; he came to deceive you and observe your movements and find out everything you are doing."

9. Family Members

GEN 27:36 Esau said, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob? He has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!"

GEN 29:25 When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn't I? Why have you deceived me?"

GEN 31:20 Moreover, Jacob deceived Laban the Aramean by not telling him he was running away.

GEN 31:26-27 Then Laban said to Jacob, "What have you done? You've deceived me, and you've carried off my daughters like captives in war. Why did you run off secretly and deceive me? Why didn't you tell me, so I could send you away with joy and singing to the music of tambourines and harps?"

1SA 19:17 Saul said to Michal, "Why did you deceive me like this and send my enemy away so that he escaped?" Michal told him, "He said to me, 'Let me get away. Why should I kill you?'"

10. False gods & the Enthusiasm Surrounding Them

JER 3:23 Surely the idolatrous commotion on the hills and mountains is a deception; surely in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel.

GOD ACCUSED OF DECEIVING

- 2KI 19:10 “Say to Hezekiah king of Judah: Do not let the god you depend on deceive you when he says, 'Jerusalem will not be handed over to the king of Assyria.'”
- JER 4:10 Then I said, “Ah, Sovereign LORD, how completely you have deceived this people and Jerusalem by saying, 'You will have peace,' when the sword is at our throats.”
- JER 20:7 O LORD, you deceived me, and I was deceived; you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me.
- MAT 27:63 “Sir,” they said, “we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.”
- JOH 7:12 Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, “He is a good man.” Others replied, “No, he deceives the people.”

DECEPTION IS PLOTTED / STRATEGIC

- PSA 38:12 Those who seek my life set their traps, those who would harm me talk of my ruin; all day long they plot deception.
- PRO 26:26 His malice may be concealed by deception, but his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.

DON'T DECEIVE OTHERS

- LEV 19:11 Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not deceive one another.
- PRO 14:5 A truthful witness does not deceive, but a false witness pours out lies.
- PRO 24:28 Do not testify against your neighbor without cause, or use your lips to deceive.
- 2CO 4:2 Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

DON'T ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE DECEIVED

1. We Can Be More Easily Deceived Than We Think

- HOS 7:11 “Ephraim is like a dove, easily deceived and senseless--now calling to Egypt, now turning to Assyria.”

2. Be On Constant Guard

- MAT 24:4 Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you.”

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- 2TH 2:3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.
- JAM 1:16 Don't be deceived, my dear brothers.

3. Realize The Consequences Of Your Actions

- 1CO 6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived...
- GAL 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

DON'T FEAR DECEIVERS

- PSA 49:5 Why should I fear when evil days come, when wicked deceivers surround me?

CONSEQUENCES OF OUR DECEPTION

- LEV 6:2, 4-7 "If anyone sins and is unfaithful to the LORD by deceiving his neighbor about something entrusted to him or left in his care or stolen, or if he cheats him,...when he thus sins and becomes guilty, he must return what he has stolen or taken by extortion, or what was entrusted to him, or the lost property he found, or whatever it was he swore falsely about. He must make restitution in full, add a fifth of the value to it and give it all to the owner on the day he presents his guilt offering. And as a penalty he must bring to the priest, that is, to the LORD, his guilt offering, a ram from the flock, one without defect and of the proper value. In this way the priest will make atonement for him before the LORD, and he will be forgiven for any of these things he did that made him guilty."
- HOS 10:13 But you have planted wickedness, you have reaped evil, you have eaten the fruit of deception. Because you have depended on your own strength and on your many warriors...