

DECEPTION

The devil is a liar from the beginning (John 8:44). His purpose is to confuse and distract us through misinformation so we will wander from God's perfect will for us. Disguised as the serpent, he deceived Adam and Eve, and he is still up to it today.

Revelation 20:2-3

*“And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,
and threw him into the abyss, and shut {it} and sealed {it} over him, so that he should not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.”*

The devil is trying to deceive at every turn, using anyone he can find, including those who may be sitting next to you in church, prophets, teachers, even “angels of light.” The devil's domain is darkness, so what he does is under cover, hidden, disguised.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

*“For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.
And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.
Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their deeds.”*

Matthew 7:15

“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.”

But we are not to be deceived or led astray. We are to listen to the Holy Spirit, who will lead us into the truth, showing us what is of God and what is not.

1 John 2:26-27

*“These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you.
And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.”*

Hebrews 5:14

“But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

So, we must judge prophecy (1 Thessalonians 5:20) and spiritually appraise all things (1 Corinthians 2:15).