

Living Victoriously Over End-Time Deception

"These are those who follow the Lamb wherever He goes...These were the redeemed from among men, being first fruits to God and to the Lamb." **Revelation 14:4**

"...Then the **fourth angel** poured out his bowl on the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; **but they did not repent and give Him glory**. Then the **fifth angel** poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain. **They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds**. Then the **sixth angel** poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared...For **they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to deceive the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty**. "Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed are all who are awaiting me, who keep their robes in readiness and will not need to walk naked and ashamed." **And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.**" **Revelation 16:7-16**

I. Introduction

"The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness." **II Thessalonians 2:9-12 (NKJV)**

II. Exposing the Devil's Tactics: Various Types of Deception in The 21st Century:

1. The compromising of _____.

"O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth...? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?" **Galatians 3:1, 3**

2. Falling into the error of _____.

"Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you. Such a person also goes into great detail about what they have seen; they are puffed up with idle notions by their unspiritual mind. They have lost connection with the head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow." **Colossians 2:18-19**

"I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!" **Galatians 1:6-9**

3. Falling into the trap of _____.

“And let us not neglect our meeting together (church), as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of Christ’s return is drawing ever nearer.” Hebrews 10:25

4. Falling into any _____ deception.

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived.

***Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified...” I Corinthians 6:9-11*

“Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people. I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God’s marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago...” Jude 1:3-4 (NLT)

5. Falling victim to various forms of _____.

“Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons...Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.” I Timothy 4:1, 16

“...For the time will come when people will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables...” II Timothy 4:2-5 (NKJV)

6. Falling into Satan’s trap of _____.

*“...for Demas has forsaken me, **having loved this present world**, and has departed for Thessalonica...” II Timothy 4:10 (NKJV)*

*“Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and **the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things** entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.” Mark 4:18-19 (NKJV)*

III. What to Do---How to Avoid Deception:

1. Remain close to Jesus each day.
2. Remain close to the church and to other spiritually-healthy believers.
3. Never allow Satan to exploit bad attitudes in you to draw you out of a place of safety.
4. Always pray for discernment and a spiritual “eye” in reference to current events.
5. Be diligent to keep your spiritual lamp “lit” in this age of madness and voices (See Matt. 25:1-13).
6. Cry out to the Lord for greater depth and understanding of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

7. Cultivate a healthy *“fear of the Lord”* and keep your mind and body free of any sinful lifestyle.
8. Never allow fear to dominate your heart in any way (see Matthew 28:20b).
9. Read and digest God’s Word each day---asking Jesus to spiritually *“renew”* your mind.
10. Never fall into Satan’s trap of believing that deception could never happen to you!

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But narrow is the gate and difficult is the road that leads to life, and only a few will find it.” **Matthew 7:13-14**

Answer Key:

1. Biblical core values
2. exalting a special revelation
3. prideful self-promotion
4. sexually-oriented
5. doctrinal deception
6. worldly allurements and drawings