

UNCOVERING DECEPTION

“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” (2 Cor. 11:3)

We need to sense the urgency of the hour that is upon us. We are in the last days, and Jesus told us when that day approaches to be watchful unto prayer lest our hearts be weighed down by the cares of this life (spirit of the world). Why is this so important? Because in the last days a snare will come upon all those who dwell upon the face of the whole earth (Lk. 21:34-35), and many will be deceived. For this reason, the Spirit of God has spoken in sundry times and diverse situations in the past, and this very day, to pull away from the philosophies of the world. Our everyday lives are so invested in what transpires in the political realm, but today in times of so much uncertainty, God is saying, “Turn to Me.” He promises to be our refuge and fortress (Psa. 91:2), and He will deliver us out of every trouble (Psa. 32:7, 37:39). *“Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me” (Psa. 50:15).*

We can get entangled in Satan’s web of deception. He works not only in dark places of iniquity, but also in the light, having transformed himself as an angel of it (2 Cor. 11:14). It is possible to substitute his wisdom (of the world) for the knowledge of God, and unknowingly give heed to deceiving spirits. *“Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron” (1 Tim. 4:1-2 NKJV).*

Satan works in devious ways in the world to deceive God’s people. One way is to put their trust in a political process he oversees under the pretense of protecting our rights and religious liberties or promoting our economic well-being. He employs a lying spirit to make us think we are gaining ground, and though we might pick up a few wins, the truth is we are losing spiritual ground—with God, because friendship with the worldly system is enmity with God. The deception is that we see only what we are programmed to see by rulers of darkness in order to blur our vision enough so we do not get the whole picture. And without the whole picture, we cannot get the mind of God to judge rightly.

The “Deceiver” scores multiple points. First, there are people who hear God and there are people who hear the world. The Deceiver creates hostility between the two so that they are always contrary one to the other and cannot establish any good (Gal. 5:17). In fact, they consider each other their enemy. Second, the Deceiver knows that whatever rule or policy the party in power promulgates on our behalf, however meritorious, can easily be reversed, and often is, by the next power in office. Third, the Deceiver knows that what cannot be reversed is when a nation crosses the line with God, because it tears down the foundation that our laws are built upon and will eventually collapse leaving little else to stand on but sinking sand (Matt. 7:24-27). None of the rules or policies will then matter, and then what will the righteous do (Psa. 11:3)? What does matter is the foundation.

The Kingdom of God has its own realm of authority, and when we intermingle our faith with the basic principles of the world, we have to ask the question, “whose voice are

we hearing”? If we are listening to and lining up with partisan causes, the danger is that we will throw our support behind the power in office without discriminating between right and wrong. The deception is that, rather than taking a stance to preserve religious liberty, the opposite occurs: We actually cede the right to speak out against injustice and corrupt practices in order to sustain the favor of the governing authority, hoping for a favorable outcome. We end up compromising our values.

Moreover, standing behind political figures to secure a promise draws us into the partisan battle by association, robs us of our voice to speak freely, and thereby corrupts moral judgment, and damages our Christian testimony. Partisans entrusted with our cause who stoke the fire of contention with personal invectives against their political adversaries are not the messengers we want to secure our rights. Because the tenor of the message seeks to divide, it clashes with the spirit of Christianity we are called to represent. “... *What fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?*” (2 Cor 6:14 NKJV). There is no advantage—except to Satan—when truth is evil spoken of and there is no response. This is what happens when we lock arms with the worldly religious and political system, and therefore why the Bible warns us not to “*let anyone cheat us through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ*” (Col. 2:8 NKJV). Whoever wants to be a friend of the world makes himself no friend of God (Jas. 4:4). We have to pull out of the worldly philosophies to get the whole picture. Go to article entitled, “*Breaking the Stranglehold of Partisanship.*” [Click here: http://www.freeatlastministries.us/web/articles.aspx](http://www.freeatlastministries.us/web/articles.aspx)

Breakthrough

In in the midst of so many voices, if we instinctively turn back to Jesus in the inner sanctuary of our heart to get moral clarity, we will hear the voice of truth speak to us, and we will escape the deception that goes with intermingling faith with the basic principles of the world. His Spirit will command light to shine in the confusion to give us the knowledge of God (2 Cor. 4:6), and it will cut through the web of deception and free us. We will emerge with power from on high, untainted by the world.

There are a lot of supports we come to expect in life that constitute our reality and we live by them, though we may never have to prove them because they sustain us day in and day out without a thought. But take them away, and the foundation upon which we planned and hoped and built our life upon begins to crumble. We look for institutional life supports that leave us vulnerable to the worldly system, wondering whether they will deliver. But there is an alternative reality we can prove on a daily basis: it is to live by the words that come out of the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4), because there is no ambiguity in them—only truth that when acted upon lays an unshakeable foundation that will never crumble (Matt. 7:24-25). When everything falls apart, there is Jesus. He causes us to triumph in Him by manifesting His knowledge in *every place* (2 Cor. 2:14). Keeping it opens the door to the supernatural, which overrides the temporal, delivers us, and keeps our foot from slipping in the day of trouble.

The power of the Living Word is that it provides solutions that cut into Satan’s schemes to rob us of life in Christ Jesus. The closer we get to God and our purpose, there will likely be more struggles against our natural habitation from rulers of darkness. The intent is to shift our focus to the problem through fear and lies to blind us to the miraculous intervention that is standing at our door. The truth is Jesus made provision for every sickness, temptation, and loss that would come our way, and if our faith is anchored in the “finished” work of the cross, they will have no power over us. Jesus said, “*According to your*

faith be it unto you” (Matt. 9:29). There may come a time when we cannot depend upon the government to meet our needs, secure liberty, and protect us from harm, but God can for He said, *“You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day. Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you”* (Psa. 91:5-7 NKJV). Whose report do you want to believe?

Hear the voice of truth speak, for there is revelation in it for today: *“In the world you will have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”* (Jn. 16:33 NKJV). The Greek word for tribulation here means pressure, oppression, stress, anguish, adversity, affliction. There is plenty of this in the world today. The Greek word for “overcome” means to prevail and conquer. Jesus was saying ***that the worldly system would have no power over us if we follow Him, because He overcame the spirit of the world.*** If we first seek His righteousness, we can prevail over the pressures, oppression, stresses, adversities, sicknesses, falsehoods the world struggles to overcome. We have taken His name upon us, and in His name Jesus provides everything we need— He is our Counselor (Jehovah Yaats), our Provider (Jehovah Jireh), our Deliverer (Jehovah Mephalti), our Fortress (Jehovah Metsodhathi), our Banner (Jehovah Nissi), our Healer (Jehovah Rapha), our Shepherd to lead us in straight paths (Jehovah Rohi), our Peace (Jehovah Shalom), our Righteousness (Jehovah Tiskenu), our Strength (Jehovah Tsori), our Savior (Jehovah Yasha).

Thus it is possible to prevail over the worldly system if we pull away from its subliminal messaging and partisan philosophies and follow the precepts Jesus taught. If we do, we will recognize His voice whispering in our ear, *“...This is the way, walk in it...”* (Isa. 30:21 NKJV). If we walk in it, revelation will flow and understanding will keep us and deliver us from the way of evil and from those who leave the paths of uprightness (Prov. 2:11-12). This is because when we wholly follow the Lord, He leads us into all truth (Jn 16:3) whereby we can overcome the world and all it stands for (1 Jn. 5:4). And so when God says, do not walk in the counsel of the ungodly (Psa. 1:1), that is direction. If we obey it, worldly philosophy will have no power over us, for we put our trust in God and will feed on His faithfulness (mercy, love, provision, healing, deliverance).

Truly, breakthrough comes when we pull away from the impossible and look to Jesus. He then removes the scales from our eyes and teaches us wisdom and righteous judgment. You will begin to understand how the knowledge of the Lord overcomes the world. Go to article entitled,

“Counteracting the Wisdom of the World with the Knowledge of God.” [Click here:](#)

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