

## THE MIGHT OF THE LIGHT

### The Deceiver

#### I. We are not to be ignorant of Satan's devices and his main device is deception-2 Corinthians 2:11

- A. We are not to be ignorant of his devices; we are to see and understand how he thinks, his purposes, his thoughts
  - 1. We should have so much light that we know what he's trying to do and how he's trying to do it and when you tell him exactly what he's trying to do it shines the light on him and he hates the light because in it deception cannot reside
  - 2. **CEV**-We all know what goes on in his mind; **ERV**-We know very well what his plans are; **PHILIPS**-We don't want Satan to win any victory here and we know his methods; **TLB**-We know what he is trying to do; **MSG**-We're not oblivious to his sly ways; **NIRV**-We know how he does his evil work; **NLV**-We know how he works; **WYC**-That we be not deceived of Satan; for we know his thoughts

#### II. Satan is a deceiver

- A. Revelation 20:3-The thing they enemy will stop doing when he's thrown into the pit for 1,000 years is that he will stop DECEIVING the nations
  - 1. Revelation 20:7-10-As soon as he's loosed from the pit he starts deceiving (not destroying, deceiving) and destruction follows deception
- B. John 8:44-He is a liar and the father of it – Is what we think about, when we think about Satan? This is what the Father through Jesus chose to tell us about our enemy
  - 1. Versions
    - a. **CEB**-Whenever that liar speaks, he speaks according to his own nature, because he's a liar and the father of liars
    - b. **CJB**- When he tells a lie, he is speaking in character; because he is a liar — indeed, the inventor of the lie!
    - c. **CEV**-Everything he says is a lie
    - d. **ERV**- He was always against the truth. There is no truth in him. He is like the lies he tells. Yes, the devil is a liar. He is the father of lies.
    - e. **EXB**-When he tells a lie, he shows what he is really like [he reveals his own nature; or he speaks his own language; he speaks from his own]
    - f. **GNT**-He has never been on the side of truth. When he tells a lie, he is only doing what is natural to him, because he is a liar
    - g. **Mounce**-When he lies he is giving expression to his own nature for he is a liar and the father of lies
    - h. **NLV**-It is expected of the devil to lie, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

- i. *MSG-He couldn't stand the truth because there wasn't a shred of truth in him. When the Liar speaks, he makes it up out of his lying nature and fills the world with lies*
  - j. *NLT-He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.*
  - k. *VOICE- he cannot tolerate truth because he is void of anything true. At the core of his character, he is a liar; e*
  - l. *WE-He has nothing to do with what is true. His way is to tell lies.*
- C. Revelation 12:9-Satan is a deceiver; that's who he is (AMP-Satan who is the seducer, deceiver of all humanity)
- 1. John 14:6-Jesus is the truth, Satan is a liar;

### III. 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12-Deception is how Satan works (After the working of Satan and Satan works through deception)

- A. Satan's working is with ALL deceitfulness
- 1. *Philips-Armed with all the force, wonders and signs that falsehood can devise*
  - 2. *NLT-This man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles*
  - 3. *AMP-The coming [of the lawless one, the antichrist] is through the activity and working of Satan and will be attended by great power and with all sorts of [pretended] miracles and signs and delusive marvels—[all of them] lying wonders—And by unlimited seduction to evil and with all wicked deception*
- B. 10-12-If Satan can't deceive, then He can't destroy; The ones who are deceived are the ones who are experiencing destruction
- 1. **Deception always precedes destruction and there was never destruction without deception first**
    - a. 12-This believing the lie is an open door to destruction; It's deception and then destruction
      - 1) They way to not believe a lie is to have light and see that it's a lie
    - b. *NLT-He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction*
      - 1) You'd have to be deceived to travel a path that would lead to destruction
    - c. Genesis 3-In the garden it was deception and then destruction
  - 2. **You could avoid destruction if you could overcome deception**
    - a. Why are these people perishing? They believed a lie and not the truth and thought it was the truth
      - 1) They difference between a person having victory or being destroyed is one believed the truth, the other a lie
      - 2) **The destruction can only manifest where deception is present, because as long as they weren't deceived they weren't destroyed**

b. **Getting the light and believing the truth would cause them to not be destroyed and walk in victory-John 8:38**

3. Satan does come to steal, kill, and destroy, but those three are hinging upon him deceiving you first because he can't steal, kill, and destroy from someone who won't buy into his lies -John 10:10

a. **When we've been on guard for Satan we think about killing, stealing and destroying and that's okay, but we need to be aware of his need to deceive and his desire to deceive so that he can destroy**

**IV. One of the biggest deceptions he's worked is deception about who he is and how he operates;**

**Because of a lack of light on who really is and what he is really trying to do and how he really attacks we haven't handled his attacks properly with the swiftness that we should have and it has hindered us from having the victory over him that Jesus provided for us**

A. We've been ignorant in Satan's devices and not understood what it looks like when he attacks our lives-2 Corinthians 2:11

1. Many times we like to make Satan's strategy against more "spectacular" than it really is; Every attack of his, every attempt of his big or small against a person's life begins with lying words that produce thoughts-(Genesis 3, Matthew 4)

2. We've understood what Satan's attack looks like in our lives and we've made it spectacular when it's not

B. What are you looking for when you are on guard against the enemy? What does his attack look like in your mind?

1. When people think of the devil they think of some big, bad, scary something and they see fire and demons destroying people and the picture he's painted is that he's so big and bad he can do whatever he wants; When people think about the devil attacking they think about demons, fire, smoke and pitchforks and horns and deception is the furthest thing from their mind

2. With the help of religion and Hollywood the enemy has worked to create and distorted view of who he is and how he operates-Isaiah 14:16

C. When we think about the enemy as his attack on our lives we need think about deception, lies, thoughts, our mind and not get enthralled with all this other stuff that distracts away from what we need to do to overcome his attack in our lives

1. 2 Corinthians 4:4 (KJ&AMP)-This is the biggest issue Satan deals with in a man's life, his eternal salvation and notice take notice of his devices of his method, how he works: by blinding their minds from the truth, keeping them from the light, getting them to believe a lie to be true

a. On the biggest issue he used his greatest weapon deception

1) His entry point into any person, any church, any community is through the mind and the mind is always his point of attack

- 2) Not very spectacular, no smoke, fire, manifested demons
  - b. What is he trying to do with the mind?
    - 1) Hath blinded-Darken the mind, To blunt mental discernment
    - 2) He wants to prevent you from seeing so that you cannot discern the truth from a lie
  - a) *AMP-That they should not discern the truth, preventing them from seeing*
    - 3) These people don't believe the truth, they believe lies, but they don't know they are believing lies because they don't have light, they can't see to discern the truth from a lie and the whole time they are thinking that they believe right
  - c. These people are lost (destruction), but the destruction came through deception
  - d. There must be something about this light that makes him vulnerable, that exposes him, that He can't overcome
    - 1) He doesn't want this word shining unto you, He doesn't want you to see (the truth)
    - 2) Satan doesn't want the light to shine unto them because if it shines unto them they'll see they're believing wrong
    - 3) He lives in constant fear of you getting light and seeing
  - e. How would people in this state overcome him and this destruction? They would do it through the might of the light
    - 1) John 1:4-5-The might of the light; darkness has never overpowered it
  2. **Matthew 4-This has to be one of Satan's greatest attacks against any man at anytime; this had to be spiritual warfare of the highest order and yet it's not spectacular at all; There's no thunder, no lightning, no fire, no explosions in hell, there's not twenty big bad demons manifested around Jesus; It's the enemy saying something to Jesus, endeavoring to deceive and enter his thought life**
- D. Even when demonic influence increases it still started on this level of lies and deception-Luke 8:26-35
1. 29-Why is the devil always tempted people in the wilderness? He wants to get you out there alone where he can talk to you
  2. 30-Who allowed the devils to enter into him? Who gave these devils permission to enter into him? He did-John 14:30, Ephesians 4:27
    - a. The devil wasn't entering into everybody like this because everybody hadn't yielded to him the way that this man had-1Peter5:7-8
  3. They entered him through his mind (The mind is the gateway to the heart and anything that gets in you has to go through the mind)
    - a. When that demon was oppressing him his mind was unsound, therefore demonic activity of every kind always has to do with the mind

- b. Words of Satan spoken to the believer and yielded to become thoughts taken
- c. Thoughts taken continually become strongholds in the mind (it's no longer just a thought you have, it's your WAY of thinking)
- d. Strongholds in the mind enable that spirit to set up residence and give it authority to inspire everything a person does-Rom8:6,Isaia26:3
  - 1) **When you begin to yield to what that spirit says you give that spirit place in your life and you will begin to take on his characteristics**
- 4. It got to this place that looks really spectacular, but it began with him yielding to the deception of the devil in his thought life
- E. \*What we would call some of Satan's greatest attacks began with him whispering in the ear of a man who yielded to what he said
  - 1. **His attack on our life is subtle on purpose-2 Corinthians 11:3 (Subtle-Refined, Fine, Delicate)**
    - a. **It's not spectacular on purpose; he makes something huge look like something small-Matthew 7:15**
      - 1) *ERV-Be careful of false prophets. They come to you and look gentle like sheep. But they are really dangerous like wolves.*
    - b. If six demons showed up in the flesh at your house tomorrow you'd know to resist them and it'd be obvious
  - 2. No evil spirit, no matter what the rank, is just showing up in somebody's life and doing whatever he wants without him saying something first and them yielding to what he said – All of these ranks of spirits work through the same method
  - 3. **When we've been on guard for Satan we think about killing, stealing and destroying and that's okay, but we need to be aware of his need to deceive and his desire to deceive so that he can destroy**
  - 4. **Beware of the quiet whisper of the enemy for it has destroyed the lives of many)**