

25 09 21

Deceive, beguile & craftiness Pt the deceiver + meaning

This is our first study on the words deceive, beguile and craftiness in the scriptures. In this teaching we establish that – (1) False prophets prophesy false visions deceits of their own hearts (2) Those that speak mischievous things imagine deceits, and (3) those that change the truth into a lie are filled with all deceit.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. False prophets are deceivers– bringing false visions, deceits of their own hearts

“Then the Lord said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart” (Jer.14: 14).

2. Those who speak mischievous things imagine deceits

“They also that seek after my life lay snares for me: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits...” (Ps.38: 12). See also Ps.52: 2.

3. Those who change the truth unto a lie are filled with all deceit

“Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever...And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient...Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers.” (Rom.1:25, 28, 29).

Illustration

For the Germans prior to, and during WWII that had discernment, how would they have felt knowing that Hitler and his bullies had slowly but methodically changed the truth about the Jewish people into a lie? Anger that they had been deceived. Jews, like Gentiles are not perfect, but they were systematically persecuted, murdered & butchered for being Jewish. It started with an innocent arm band to let those around them know they were Jews. And the propaganda – before and after simmered away in the hearts of men that would never have committed such atrocities had Hitler not deceived the people of Germany into believing that good was evil, and evil was good. Hitler was a master at deception and manipulation. He was a deceiver!

Question to think about.

What are the signs of a deceiver?

Answer from the scriptures

- * they will speak deceit – (Prov.12: 17), and
- * they will change an agreement and deceive – (Gen.31: 7), and
- * they will be dishonest, crafty and handle the word of God deceitfully –(2 Cor.4: 2), and
- * they will hate us without a cause, wink with an eye and speak not peace but device deceitful matters – Ps.35: 19–20, and
- * they will be deceived and so seek to seduce others – Is.19: 13.

Let us all, in these last days – have discernment to know the deceivers, and beware of them!

Meaning from the scriptures –

A deceitful man tells lies

“He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight” – Ps.101: 7.

“Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, [and] from a deceitful tongue” – Ps.120: 2

Lies are deceit

“Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: but Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints” (Hos.11: 12).

To speak deceit is to speak peaceable to our neighbour but in our heart we wait to snare him

“Their tongue is as an arrow shot out; it speaketh deceit: one speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his wait” (Jer.9: 8).

A deceitful witness speaks lies

“A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies” (Prov.14:25).

A false witness speaks deceit

“He that speaketh truth sheweth forth righteousness: but a false witness deceit” (Prov.12: 17).

Deceitful men speak leasing

“Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the Lord will abhor the bloody and deceitful man” (Ps.5: 6).

Iniquity, lies and deceit go together

“The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid” (Zeph.3: 13).

To beguile is to deceive

“And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it was Leah: and he said to Laban, What is this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou **beguiled** me?” (Gen.29: 25).

When we talk deceitfully we speak wickedly

“Will ye speak wickedly for God? and talk deceitfully for him?” (Job 13:7).

See also Job 27: 4.

A deceitful tongue loves devouring words

“Thou lovest all devouring words, O thou deceitful tongue” (Ps.52: 4).

Cursing and fraud are linked to deceit

“His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue is mischief and vanity” (Ps.10: 7).

Unfaithfulness is deceit

“But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow” (Ps.78: 57).

Vanity is linked to deceit

“If I have walked with vanity, or if my foot hath hastened to deceit” (Job 31:5).

Violence and deceit go together

"In the same day also will I punish all those that leap on the threshold, which fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit" (Zeph.1: 9).

To be deceitful is to be unjust

"Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man" (Ps.43: 1).

Deceit is evil

"Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit" (Ps.50: 19).

Deceit is guile and both are wickedness

"Wickedness is in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets" (Ps. 55: 11).

The opposite of deceit and vanity is a pure heart

"He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully" (Ps.24: 4).

To deceive is to lie to our neighbour in stealing by violence

"If a soul sin, and commit a trespass against the Lord, and lie unto his neighbour in that which was delivered him to keep, or in fellowship, or in a thing taken away by violence, or hath deceived his neighbour" (Lev.6: 2).