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The nature of Satan – Pt 5 A master of disguise

In our previous studies on this topic we established that Satan is a deceiver and a destroyer, and he tempts, provokes stands up against God's children, perverts the right ways of the Lord, and hinders and snares believers. In this study we learn that Satan transforms himself into an angel of light, enters into people and fills their hearts to lie.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Satan transforms himself into an angel of light.

"And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2Cor,11:14).

In the four uses of the word "transform" in scripture three are in 2Cor.11 verses 13, 14 & 15, where there are "false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ." But we should not marvel at such men for their father the devil "himself is transformed into an angel of light." Hence we should not think it a "great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness", which "feign themselves just men" (Lk.20: 20), "with feigned words make merchandise of you..and their damnation slumbereth not" (2Pet.2: 3).

2. Satan enters into people.

"Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve" (Lk.22: 3). See also Mk.1: 32, Lk.8: 3 and Jn.13: 27.

In some case the transformation is so apparent that Satan enters into a person as he did to Judas.

3. Satan fills a person's heart to lie.

"But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?" (Acts 5: 3).

In the process of either transforming his ministers into angels of light or physically entering into them, Satan also fills a person's heart to lie, to beguile like the "false Christs and false prophets" who "seduce, if it were possible, even the elect" (Matt.13: 22).

Additional comments on our three points.

Satan is a master of disguise, the best of the best at concealing his true identity so people are seduced by his lies. He is so good at camouflaging himself that some believers get beguiled.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

When Karen and I were in our final year at Bible College and the Lord opened our eyes to the truth of the 1611 Authorised Bible our lecturer for 1Corinthians was found to be a "wolf in sheep's clothing". He resigned at the end of the year after being exposed by the New Zealand Beacon, and went to Lincoln University where he is now Professor at the school of Government.

Question to think about..

How do we identify a person that has been transformed into a minister of light, or whom Satan has entered into, or has filled their heart to lie?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

If the person was one who was, "night and day...in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones" (Mk 5: 5), then we know that he is "possessed with the devil", and when delivered he will be "sitting, and clothed...in his right mind" (Mk.5: 15).

If a person is a wolf in sheep's clothing, then they will be seen by their works (2Cor.11: 15), and "the lusts of your father ye will do...When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (Jn.8: 44). Beware, Satan is a master of disguise, be not seduced.