

TEN GREAT BIBLICAL DECEPTIONS

SOME SCRIPTURAL REFERENCE TO STEER CLEAR FROM DECEPTION

"Take heed lest any man deceive you!" This is one of the warnings in Scripture that any believer would do well to listen to. Is it possible that you are deceived that are reading this? From the beginning men have been deceived, how ought we to earnestly take heed to ourselves lest we find ourselves in the same place. - Greg Gordon

DECEPTION ONE - EVIL MEN AND SEDUCERS

"Take heed lest any man deceive you!" This is one of the warnings in Scripture that any believer would do well to listen to. Is it possible that you are deceived that are reading this? From the beginning men have been deceived, how ought we to earnestly take heed to ourselves lest we find ourselves in the same place. The first deception is: "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." Take heed that you do not become deceived and deceive many in your blindness. God is able to keep those that call out upon His Name. The Scriptures proclaim: "No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." If we walk fully towards God in repentance and forsaking all our idols we will be protected from deception.

DECEPTION TWO - SIN THAT KILLS

“For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.” We were all deceived in our prior condition before Christ: “For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.” Alas our dire state but there is found great forgiveness and new birth in Christ. “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” We must never ignore this great evil of sin in our life’s it is always ready to overtake us. Take heed dear Christian that you be found obstinate towards sin and it overtake you. John Owen said that it is a murderer and must be dealt with as like to its nature, let us give a death blow to sin everyday, keeping it from ruling over us.

DECEPTION THREE - UNBRIDLED TONGUE

“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.” Take heed that you realize that evil words and thoughts will corrupt and destroy your soul. Christ said we will be judged for every idle word we speak. It is stated in the Epistle of James: “If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.” Oh the horror of self-deception, only the truth of God our lamp to our feet will keep us from stumbling and being self-deceived. Hear this admonition from the Epistle of Galatians: “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” Let no man tell you that you can be careless with your words and company and not suffer consequences.

DECEPTION FOUR - BELLY PREACHERS

“Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.” Take heed that you do not fellowship with or listen to “belly” preachers. These are those that serve not God but their own lusts, you can tell them by their fruits: “Divisions and offenses.” The act contrary to that of the Lord Jesus Christ and serve not as an example to the body of Christ. They will preach to you what you want to hear

and you will never be convicted in their presence. They are men pleasers for the reason that they may obtain what they desire not what God commands.

DECEPTION FIVE - WHEN WE THINK WE ARE SOMETHING

“Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.” And it is stated elsewhere in Holy Writ: “For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.” Take heed Christian that you self-exalt and promote yourselves amongst the brethren. Take heed Christian when the world is enamored at your success as a preacher. What a woeful day it is when the world seems us “wise” and we think ourselves “something.” We must live a life that is self-abasing and God-exalting. Christ and His Cross is our heavenly boast. Live a simple life that honors God in all its works and attitudes.

DECEPTION SIX - HEARERS ONLY!

“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” Take heed dear Christian when you only begin to hear the word of God and find not practical change in your life. What a terrible place to be when you are taking in much truth yet living in un-truth. Let us not be dead sea’s that are stagnant and truth rich but alas have no outflow to sustain life. Preacher’s in this condition are “dead men preaching dead sermons.” Let our life’s reflect His glory in all that we do, may we hear and obey His word and then in that day we will hear: “well done good and faithful servant!”

DECEPTION SEVEN - LIVING IN SIN?

“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” It

also states in the Epistle of 1 John: “Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.” Take heed that you do not serve and be mastered by sin. Let no man deceive you that you can live in sin and be acceptable with God. Let no man deceive you and tell you that you can enter into heaven while in bondage to sin.

DECEPTION EIGHT - VAIN WORDS

“Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.” It says in the Epistle to Titus: “For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers.” Take heed that you are not deceived by men who with all trickery and vain words beguile man by their smooth words. The wrath of God is upon this world even now and we must be sober and serious in our speech towards the divine remedy of our condition of eternal damnation.

DECEPTION NINE - FALSE PROPHETS AND CHRIST’S

“And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.” Take heed you are not deceived by false Christ’s. This is a clear warning from our Master the Lord Jesus Christ that in the last days there will be “men” that will deceive many. “Many!” Never in the history of the Church have so many false concepts crept in unawares beguiling many souls. This is the method of the devil to work all deceivableness amongst the Church as an angel of light to deceive even the elect!

DECEPTION TEN - THE DEVIL

“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.” Also Scripture states: “And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world.” Lastly, take heed that you are not deceived of that great deceiver the Devil himself and fall into his same estate. ”Take heed lest any man deceive you!”