

DANGEROUS DECEPTIONS (2)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Since the beginning, there has been deception.
 - 1. Garden of Eden. Gen 2:16,17; 3:1-4 one little word.
 - 2. Jacob and Esau. Gen. 27:1-29 Took his blessing.
 - 3. Laban and Jacob. Gen. 29:18-30 Leah And Rachel.
 - 4. Joseph's Brothers. Gen. 37:12-36 Implied Joseph dead.
- B. Deception, is dangerous - It is purposeful, misleading, intending to cause others to believe they are going or doing right. Deception can kill.
 - 1. Changing or removing a road sign that warns of danger.
 - 2. Saying certain medications safe when used together.
 - 3. Using an incorrectly-packed parachute.
- C. All are deceptions, some intentional, others unintentional, but results same: Death or injury. As dangerous as these are, there are other, more dangerous deceptions in religion which lead to the destruction of the soul.
- D. Christians must not be ignorant of devil's devices (2Cor. 2:11).
- E. Look at some dangerous deceptions and see how truth answers. (Review material covered last week)

DISCUSSION: (Review first three points)

I. MAN CANNOT SAVE HIMSELF

- A. He Has To Do Nothing. (Scripture used to defend - Born in sin Psa 51:5 - heart is "full of evil." Eccl 9:3 - mind set on flesh cannot submit to God's law Rom 8:7,8
- B. God's Word Says: Acts 2:40 – choose whom to follow Rom 6:16-19 - choose to disobey Jer 6:16; Josh 24:15 - must take action: believe Mk 16:16; repent Acts 17:30; confess Rom 10:9,10; be baptized Acts 2:38

II. GOD ACCEPTS ALL

- A. As they are 2Pet 3:9 - God a loving God - must be "tolerant" of those who are different 1Jhn 4:8-16 - sinful lifestyles must be accepted
- B. God's Word Says: make a change Acts 26:20 - believe that He is Heb 11:6 - ungodly not inherit kingdom 1Cor 6:9-11

III. GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS

- A. Of Sinners - "Ask Jesus into your heart" 1Jhn 1:9 - anyone at anytime may pray to God and have prayers answered. (see "sinners prayer")
- B. God's Word Says: God hears those who worship Him Jhn 9:3; (written to Christians 1Jhn 1:9) - Some prayers abomination Prov 28:9; Psa 66:18
- C. As We Desire and Expect. 1Jhn 5:15 - Whatever we ask, Jesus is supposed to provide, regardless. As His followers, we will be constantly provided for. Not what Rom. 8:28 teaches

- D. God's word says: conditional answers 1Jhn 3:22; 5:14 - To be done in Christ's name Eph 5:20 God's answer may not be ours!

IV. ALL EQUAL IN CHRIST.

- A. What Men May Do, So May Women. Gal 3:28
 - 1. Because all are "one", women can do what men do
 - 2. The 'traditional' way is outdated and sexist.
 - 3. There is a cultural push to erase distinctions between genders and diminish masculinity (gender neutral translations of the Bible)
 - 4. Push for gender neutrality United Nations "Make this the century of women's equality:" UN chief Mar 2020
 - 5. Most denominations allow women in all leadership roles – elders, deacons, preachers – some Catholics have been ordaining women priest since the 1990's
 - 6. Many believe Phoebe was a "deacon" Rom 16:1-2
- B. God's Word Says:
 - 1. All are equal in Christ Gal 3:28 – but distinctive roles (Woman made as help meet for man Gen 2:18)
 - 2. Man is head over woman. 1Cor 11:3
 - 3. Woman not to teach a man. 1Cor 14:34,35 1Tim 2:11-14
 - 4. "Servant" in Rom 16:1-2 not a deacon because of qualifications 1Tim 3:11-12

IV. WE WILL LIVE FOREVER ON EARTH

- A. Scriptures used as proof: Psa. 37:9-11; "Abide forever." 1Jhn 2:17;
- B. Jehovah Witnesses believe only 144,000 going to heaven, all other faithful will remain on a renovated earth "New heaven and new earth" literal 2Pet 3:13
- C. God's word says:
 - 1. Earth will be destroyed. 2Pet 3:10-12
 - 2. Will meet the Lord in the air. 1 Thess. 4:15-17
 - 3. Reward in heaven Matt 5:12 Heb 10:34 1Pet 1:4
 - 4. Our citizenship is in heaven. Phil 3:20

CONCLUSION:

- A. Some are close to truth. In fact, all have some element of truth. But, some truth is not all truth, and partial truth is no truth.
- B. A little lie will result in a big mistake. Just ask Eve! Just one little word - "not" - brought sin and condemnation.
- C. The only thing that will save us from eternal condemnation is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.
- D. That truth is the word of God and it alone. It is the power of God unto salvation to those who believe. Rom 1:16

(by Steven C. Harper revised by jlh)