

BE NOT DECEIVED!

7-9-2023 AM

INTRODUCTION:

A. Read text: 2 Thess. 2:1-4.

B. Regarding the text:

1. From the beginning the great deceiver has been at work.
2. The context: The Lord is coming. We do not know when.
 - 1) Thus, we must be aware of Satan's devices (**1 Pet 5:8**).
 - 2) Many are deceived because they throw caution to the wind (**Hos. 8:7**).
3. We will not be saved following untruths and deception!

C. Far too many are being deceived. What can we do?

DISCUSSION: FROM OUR TEXT LET US OBSERVE...

I. DECEPTION IS POSSIBLE.

A. DEFINE: Deceived: to be led aside from the path of virtue, to go astray. To move in a direction without authority (James 1:16**).**

B. Many are deceived. (Some do not care while others are following things which are not true.)

C. Several Scriptures.

1. **Matt 7:15.**
2. **Matt 24:4-5.**
3. **2 Tim. 3:12-13.**

D. Many teach we cannot fall. But these show the possibility.

II. SOME SAFEGUARDS ARE FOUND IN 2 THESSALONIANS 2.

A. Constantly remember the fundamentals (Vs. 5**).**

1. Flee FALSE DOCTRINES:

- 1) **Eph 4:14.**
- 2) **1 John 4:1.**
- 3) **1 Thess. 5:21.**

2. Flee CUNNING MEN:

- 1) **Eph 5:6.** Vain words = empty and without truth.
- 2) No one ever gets to the point he does not need to study!

B. Must love truth more than anything else (Vs. 10**).**

1. **John 8:31-32** Only truth can make men free (**John 17:17**).
2. Falsehoods in religions leads to a departure from the faith (**1 Tim. 4:1**).

C. Resist the idea that something NEW is better (Vs. 15**).**

1. Traditions can be good or bad. Depending on its source.
 - 1) Traditions of men are not to be followed. **Matt 15:6-9**
 - 2) That which comes from God is to be a part of our lives (**2 Thess. 3:6**).
2. The age of a tradition has no bearing on its authority.
 - 1) The Jews sought to follow the traditions of their fathers (**Gal. 1:14**).
3. We must be careful and never say, "that's how it has always been done!"

D. Get Busy and Stay Busy (Vs. 17**).**

1. **1 Thess. 4:11; 2 Thess. 3:10-11.**
2. **1 Tim. 5:13.**

III. CONCLUSION.

A. We must always be careful not to be deceived.

B. Deception is bad for the soul.