

“DO NOT BE DECEIVED”

6/22/2025 AM

INTRO.:

- A. Read the text: **2 Thess. 2:1-4.**
- B. Regarding the text:
 - 1. Deception first appeared in **Genesis 3.**
 - 2. Our text discusses the second coming of Christ.
 - 1) He is coming. But we do not know when (**1 Thess. 5:1-2**).
 - 2) Thus, we must safeguard ourselves from the wiles of the devil (**1 Peter 5:8-9**).
- C. Mankind continues to be deceived by the old serpent. What can we do?

I. WE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT WE CAN BE DECEIVED.

- A. Deceived = to be led aside from the path of virtue, to go astray (**James 1:16**).
- B. Thus, we put on the WHOLE armor of God (**Eph. 6:11**).
- C. Several Scriptures give warning.
 - 1. **Matthew 7:15.**
 - 2. **Matthew 24:4-5.**
 - 3. **2 Timothy 3:12-13.**

II. SOME SAFEGUARDS FOUND IN 2 THESSALONIANS CHAPTER 2.

- A. **2 Thess. 2:5:** Do not forget the fundamentals you were taught.
 - 1. **ELIMINATE** all forms of deceit.
 - 1) **WRONG DOCTRINES!**
 - a. **Ephesians 4:14.**
 - b. **1 John 4:1.**
 - c. **1 Thessalonians 5:21.**
 - 2) **CUNNING MEN:**
 - a. **Genesis 3:1** (Subtil is to be crafty; deceptive).
 - b. **Ephesians 5:6.**
 - c. **Job 15:5.**
 - 2. **REMEMBER** We can only remember that which we have been taught.
 - 1) Do not set aside what you have been taught.
 - 2) Exercise your memory, that is, recollect; also, to rehearse.
 - 3) Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life!!!
- B. **2 Thess. 2:9-10:** Love truth more than anything else that seeks our affections.
 - 1. **2 Thessalonians 2:9-10.**
 - 1) Deceptive doctrine cannot save.
 - 2) Salvation is found only in the truth (**John 8:31-32; 17:17; Romans 1:16**).
 - 2. Deceptive doctrines were foretold (**1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 4:4**).
- C. **2 Thess. 2:15** Resist the idea that new is better.
 - 1. A tradition is the giving over or handing down teachings and customs.
 - 2. Traditions can be good or bad depending on the source.
 - 1) Traditions of men must be avoided (**Matthew 15:8-9**).
 - 2) That which comes from the Lord is to be followed (**2 Thessalonians 2:15; 3:6**).
- D. **2 Thess. 2:17** Stay busy!
 - 1. Activity and involvement are keys to maintaining our faith (**2 Thessalonians 3:4, 11-13**).
 - 2. Idleness is one of the devil's main tools.

III. CONCLUSION:

- A. Believing error will not make it true.
- B. Deception when followed will separate us from God.