

The Strong Delusion

By

Raymond D. Mossie

(New King James Version, unless otherwise noted; emphasis added)

Introduction:

*In this teaching, we will examine a single scripture that is of great importance and should be of significant concern to everyone; especially those who wish to make it into the kingdom of heaven and avoid the end-time deception that is sweeping the modern Christian Church. Paul spoke of something in one of the epistles, (letters to the early churches that have been canonized into New Testament scriptures) that has extreme consequences for anyone. This scripture refers to something called a 'strong delusion'. First of all, what is delusion? The Cambridge dictionary defines **delusion** as 'belief in something that is not true'. So this is the issue that Paul was dealing with. Let us look at the scripture in question...*

2 Thessalonians 2:11 And for this reason God will send them **strong delusion**, that they should believe the lie...

*This is the scripture that we wish to deal with in this teaching. Notice that it says that **God** will send people a **STRONG delusion**, that they, (people under this strong delusion) should **believe the lie**. This means that these people will be so committed to the lie that they will propagate it and defend it STRONGLY, mistakenly believing it to be truth. What is that lie? To answer this, we must look at the context of the scripture in order to understand what the lie is and the reason Paul says God will do this thing.*

2 Thessalonians 2 –

¹Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, **²not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. ³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed,** the son of perdition, **⁴who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.**

⁵Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. **⁹The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹²that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

*So here we can see the context that the scripture in question is contained within. In this follow-up letter to the Thessalonians, Paul is reminding them of something he had already taught them...the order of end-time events and the return of Jesus, (please see the teaching, 'Order of End-Time Events'). If knowing these things was not important then Paul would not have taught them this order of events and he would not have written them to correct wrong thinking concerning those events. **So this issue of knowing the order of end-time events must also be important for us, and perhaps more so, because we are much closer to the time they will occur than the early church was.***

Suffering, The Great Tribulation and The Day of the Lord:

*What is the event that the Thessalonians had mistakenly believed to have already happened? It was the **day of Christ**, (also known as the **day of the Lord/Yahweh**). What is the day of the Lord? There are several references to this 'day' in both the Old and New Testaments. It refers to a time of God's wrath. But Paul tells us that we are not appointed to God's wrath...*

I Thessalonians 5 –

¹ But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. ² **For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.** ³ For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. ⁴ **But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.** ⁵ You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶ Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸ But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ **For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,** ¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

¹¹ Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

Various Exhortations

¹² And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, ¹³ and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. ¹⁵ See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ **Test all things; hold fast what is good.** ²² **Abstain from every form of evil.**

So since we are not appointed to God's wrath, does this mean that we will somehow 'raptured' out of the earth before the day of the Lord? This is certainly what many modern church leaders would have you believe. But there is absolutely NO support in the scriptures for such a belief. One would have to take things out of context in order to make such a claim, and indeed this is what many, if not most, of the preeminent Christian leaders are doing today. They are preaching a false doctrine of pre- or even mid-tribulation rapture of the church and nowhere in the Bible does it teach such a concept.

But these same Christian leaders have written many books, preached many sermons and even made movies depicting such an event. The famous 'Left Behind' series of books and movies were about this very concept of a pre-tribulation rapture of believers from the earth and into heaven BEFORE the Antichrist, or man of sin is revealed and the great tribulation referred to in the Bible takes place. Yet Paul, in the above scriptures, tells us that no such thing will happen and that we will KNOW the times and seasons to expect the return of Christ and that it WILL NOT take us unaware, as a thief in the night, like it will those who live in spiritual darkness.

*The return of Jesus, (His second coming) is an event that will be seen around the world, (see Matthew 24:27). That event will be the culmination of what the Bible refers to as **the day of the Lord**. In truth, **the great tribulation and the day of the Lord are two separate events**. The great tribulation coincides with the rider of the white horse in Revelation chapter 6 and will last 3 a half years, but the day of the Lord is the 6th and 7th seals and there is no indication as to how long those events will last. But the day of Christ begins with a great earthquake and something that blots out the sun, moon and stars, (probably an eruption of a mega volcano like the one in Yellowstone National Park, followed by a volcanic winter where the ash covers the earth for a time, thus blotting out the sun, etc.) followed by meteor or asteroid strikes, (stars falling from heaven).*

Revelation 6 –

¹ Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." ² And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

*This first seal is tribulation, with the deception and persecution of the saints, culminating in the **great tribulation**. The great tribulation will last 3 and one half years, 42 months) and **is the wrath of Satan against the saints**.*

Revelation 13 – (speaking of the Antichrist or man of sin)

⁵ **And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.** ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy

against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.⁷ **It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them.** And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear.¹⁰ He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. **Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.**

If the saints, (a.k.a., righteous Christians) were not in the earth during this great tribulation, that will last 42 months or 3 and one half years, how could this scripture be fulfilled? Answer: it could not. So, the saints WILL BE IN THE EARTH and MANY WILL BE PERSECUTED AT THE HANDS OF THE ANTICHRIST! If you read Revelation 12, you will see that some saints will escape the entire tribulation and be protected in a place called 'the wilderness'. We do not know the exact location of the wilderness spoken of there, but I have done some prayerful research and may have figured it out. Suffice it to say that it is not ready for anyone yet, so the time is still in the future. Immediately after the great tribulation is the beginning of the day of the Lord that starts with the opening of the 6th seal.

Matthew 24:12 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

Revelation 6 –

¹² I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.¹³ And **the stars of heaven fell to the earth**, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,¹⁶ and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!”¹⁷ **For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”**

This tells us that the day of God's wrath, or the day of the Lord, Jesus Christ, (who is the Lamb) begins with the 6th seal. This makes sense, because the number of a man is six and it will be a warning to all mankind that the 7th seal is about to be opened and God's wrath poured out in its fullness.

The Bible says in Revelation 8 that after the 6th seal there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. If we use the analogy of a year for a day, (Numbers 14:34) this could be about 15 days, but if we use the analogy that to God a day is as a thousand years, (2 Peter 3:8) this silence could last almost 20 years and 10 months. In either case, it will follow the 6th seal and is before the opening of the 7th seal and will allow people on the earth to recoup and believe that the anger of God is over and that there will be peace. And, as Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5:3 above when they say, 'peace and safety' then the destruction of epic proportions will follow.

Revelation 8 –

When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.

You can read from Revelation chapter 8 through chapter 16 to get an idea of what things will be a part of God's judgment on the earth as a result of the 7 trumpet blasts from those 7 angels. True believers will still be here and will be protected, but the rest of humanity who rejected Jesus will suffer as never before, but the Bible says they will still refuse to repent. At the finish of the last trumpet, Jesus will return. That return is described in Revelation chapter 19. That is why Paul said...

1 Thessalonians 4 –

¹³ But **I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren**, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

¹⁵ **For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.** ¹⁶ **For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.** ¹⁷ **Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.** ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

I also do not want you to be ignorant about all these things, so I am writing you in the same vein as Paul to tell you that Jesus will only come back AFTER all the 7 trumpets have been blown and the fullness of God's wrath has been poured out into the earth.

Before Jesus comes back, MOST of what is written in the book of Revelation and the books of the prophets will have taken place and the body of believers, (the only 'Christ' in the earth today) will still be in the earth, but in a place of safety in the 'wilderness' that God Himself has prepared for us. One modern teacher explains this as being similar to how God kept the Israelites safe during the plagues that He afflicted Egypt with in the days of Moses. This is how God will do things for His true followers during the end-time events that are depicted in both Old and New Testament scriptures. But, it will be a progressive thing, because not everyone is in the right place spiritually and many believers will have to have their 'robes washed clean in the blood of the Lamb' through persecution during the great tribulation.

*I have dealt with these issues in previous teachings, (see the teachings, 'Have You Believed the Lie?', 'The Trouble that Lies Just Ahead', 'Revelation Revealed' and the book, 'Who Said that You Should be Perfect?') so I will not go into detail here, but suffice it to say that **the great tribulation is NOT the wrath of God but the wrath of Satan**. We are not appointed to the wrath of God, but we ARE appointed to the wrath of Satan and it is through suffering his wrath that many believers will learn how to truly obey God. Those who learn obedience BEFORE the great tribulation, (these people are called the 144,000, and I believe are 144,000 men, not counting women and children, or the Philadelphia church in the book of Revelation) will escape the entire great tribulation and those Christians who survive the great tribulation*

may be allowed to escape by joining the 'Philadelphia church' in the wilderness place of safety, as the tribulation progresses. Other believers will simply be martyred during the tribulation.

Revelation 7 –

¹After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ²Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

⁵of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand *were* sealed;
⁶of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand *were* sealed;
⁷of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand *were* sealed;
⁸of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand *were* sealed;
of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand *were* sealed.

A Multitude from the Great Tribulation

⁹After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying:

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom,
Thanksgiving and honor and power and might,
Be to our God forever and ever.
Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"

¹⁴And I said to him, "Sir, you know."

So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore they are before the

throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat;¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The 144,000 Israelites listed in these scriptures are not all Jews, as most modern Christian teachers would have you believe. You can see for yourself that only 12,000 are of the tribe of Judah, or ‘Jews’. The rest are Israelites, but not bloodline Jewish, though they may will have Hebrew blood in their veins. But they do not have to even be actual bloodline Israelites, because we are all children of Abraham through Jesus, and heirs to the promises of God through him, (see Galatians 3:29). I contend that these 144,000, (again they are men, not counting women and children, because God only ever counted the men in the Bible) represent the Philadelphia church who will be sealed and set aside from the entire great tribulation. All the other saints will be persecuted in the tribulation, in order to get them ‘clean’ and obedient in Christ. The great tribulation is designed FOR THE CHURCH, in order to refine and purify them.

*So, why would God allow such a thing to happen? The answer is simple...**most of God’s chosen people are selfish and disobedient, constantly resisting the will of God for their lives and following the dictates of their own minds. It will take a worldwide, catastrophic, persecutory event that is known as the great tribulation to teach these stiff-necked ‘Israelites’, (a.k.a., Christians) to humbly obey God.*** Anyone who teaches that Israel is all Jews and that they are separate from the Christian church with a different calling or destiny is teaching error. **God only has, and ever has had, one people.** We are all unified through Jesus. I have been preaching this message for many years now and the only people who believe it and are truly seeking to become obedient to God, that I know of personally, can be counted on one hand, and they are challenged daily to walk the walk of the Philadelphia church. I know there are others out there, but God has not connected me with them yet.

*So why am I writing this teaching about this subject yet again? The answer is that God directed me to do so by revealing the issue of the strong delusion to me. So I am simply obedient to God! I have also alluded to some of these things in a recent teaching called, ‘The Great Deception’. In that teaching, I delve into the various forms of deception that modern Christians are subjected to and how to avoid them. **But, if people do not learn what these deceptions are and learn ahead of time to avoid them, then God will eventually send these same disobedient and foolish people a STRONG DELUSION, so that they will believe the lie.*** And I personally believe this delusion is already rampant in the modern Christian Church and is becoming more and more solidified in MANY individual churches and denominations.

In truth, the strong delusion is probably more prevalent than true teachings in the modern church! This is a frightening thought, but I believe if one examines what is being preached and propagated in the modern church worldwide, you will find that there is error in the vast majority of what people teach as truth. And Jesus said, ‘a little leaven, (lie/error) leavens the whole lump. In other words, if there is ANYTHING that is untrue in a church’s doctrine, the whole thing is off track. And if the message being taught in the church is off track, then those

who believe such a message are headed for destruction and only by rejecting such false teachings and accepting and walking in pure truth, according to the Word of God, will save them from certain persecution and unimaginable suffering at the hands of the enemy. So if that persecution does not change them, then surely their appointment will be changed and God's wrath will come upon them.

I Peter 4 –

¹² Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; ¹³ but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. ¹⁴ If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. ¹⁶ **Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.**

¹⁷ **For the time *has come* for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?** ¹⁸ **Now**

**"If the righteous one is scarcely saved,
Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?"**

¹⁹ **Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to *Him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.**

These scriptures, (among others) tell us that suffering persecution, (that is what suffering as a Christian means) is part of what we are to expect. MOST of the Christians who attend church in first world countries DO NOT suffer persecution, therefore, when the man of sin is revealed, they WILL suffer persecution at that time. Those of us who suffer it now for doing the full will of God that He has directed us to do, will be allowed to escape the persecution of the great tribulation because we have learned from suffering how to hear from and obey the voice of God, regardless of the consequences. This is how we move toward perfection in Jesus, (see the teaching, 'The Path to Perfection'). Even Jesus learned obedience through suffering. But even in this, there are no guarantees without obedience, because if we fail to persevere in our obedience to the voice of God, then we will also be subjected to more severe persecutions and possibly God's wrath.

James 1 –

² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Hebrews 5 –

⁷ who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, ⁸ **though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.** ⁹ **And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal**

salvation to all who obey Him,¹⁰ called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,”¹¹ of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

Revelation 3 –

¹⁰ Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹ Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

Here we can see a principle that suffering for doing the right thing leads us into perfection in God. This is what the Father requires and anyone who teaches otherwise, (e.g., that God does not expect us to be perfect) is preaching false doctrines of demons. Jesus and the apostles all taught that we must give up sin and strive toward perfection in Jesus Christ. This is part of our duty to God and He will have it no other way, (see the nook, ‘Who Said that You Should be Perfect?’).

People who preach a watered down gospel of prosperity and blessing, apart from sanctification and holiness, are lying to the church and leading them to destruction. This is exactly what MOST modern preachers are doing and to make things worse, they are proffering the lie of a pre-tribulation rapture that helps to support the false teaching that faith alone, without works, will keep people saved and even bring the blessing and protection of God into their lives and this simply is not the case. Faith in Jesus Christ and the grace of God to save us is all that is required to enter into salvation. But this simply opens the door for us to have access to the kingdom of heaven. However, the Bible clearly teaches that in order for us to STAY in the kingdom, and not be cast out, as Lucifer and the other rebellious angels, we have to CONTINUE TO OBEY GOD AND DO HIS WILL AND WORK. That work is not simply doing things in the name of Jesus, but is doing WHAT GOD DIRECTS US TO DO!

Matthew 7 –

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.¹⁴ **Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.**

You Will Know Them by Their Fruits

¹⁵ “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

I Never Knew You

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

Build on the Rock

²⁴ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

²⁶ “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

James 2 –

¹⁴ What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? ¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! ²⁰ But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? ²² **Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?** ²³ And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ **You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**

²⁵ Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

²⁶ **For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.**

Philippians 2 –

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;** ¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

¹⁴ **Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.**

So we can see from these scriptures that FEW will actually enter into the kingdom of God, compared to the billions of those who heard the gospel and even among those who confessed to be Christians.

Matthew 22 –

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said:² “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,³ and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.⁴ Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle *are* killed, and all things *are* ready. Come to the wedding.’”⁵ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.⁶ And the rest seized his servants, treated *them* spitefully, and killed *them*.⁷ But when the king heard *about it*, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.⁸ Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.⁹ Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’¹⁰ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.¹² So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless.¹³ Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

¹⁴ **“For many are called, but few are chosen.”**

What is the wedding garment in the parable? It is righteous acts of the Christians. In other words, it is the works from a heart of faith in obedience to the directives of God in someone’s life. The church is the bride of Jesus Christ. Just as sin of doing the wrong thing against what God directed made Adam and Eve naked, so doing the right thing at God’s direction ‘clothes us in righteousness’. But we have to obey God and work with Him IN TRUTH, and not do things our own way, in order to receive these garments of salvation.

Psalm 33:4 For the word of the LORD *is* right,
And **all His work *is* done in truth.**

Isaiah 61 –

“The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;
²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,

**³To console those who mourn in Zion,
To give them beauty for ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
That they may be called trees of righteousness,
The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”**

⁴And they shall rebuild the old ruins,
They shall raise up the former desolations,
And they shall repair the ruined cities,
The desolations of many generations.

⁵Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks,
And the sons of the foreigner
Shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.

⁶But you shall be named the priests of the LORD,
They shall call you the servants of our God.
You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles,
And in their glory you shall boast.

⁷Instead of your shame *you shall have* double honor,
And *instead of* confusion they shall rejoice in their portion.
Therefore in their land they shall possess double;
Everlasting joy shall be theirs.

**⁸“For I, the LORD, love justice;
I hate robbery for burnt offering;
I will direct their work in truth,
And will make with them an everlasting covenant.**

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles,
And their offspring among the people.
All who see them shall acknowledge them,
That they *are* the posterity *whom* the LORD has blessed.”

**¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
My soul shall be joyful in my God;
For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
As a bridegroom decks *himself* with ornaments,
And as a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels.**

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its bud,
As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth,
So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

John 17:4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.

2 Corinthians 2: 2 For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For **I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.**

Revelation 19 –

⁶And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! ⁷Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” ⁸And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the **fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**

⁹Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”

Matthew 16 –

²⁴Then Jesus said to His disciples, “**If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.** ²⁵**For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.** ²⁶**For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?** ²⁷**For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.**

Revelation 22:12 “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.”

Ephesians 4 –

¹¹**And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,** ¹²**for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry,** for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

*So it is our faith-based works as outlined in the scriptures, (as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers...see the teaching, ‘Have You Buried Your Talent?’) that will determine our eternal reward. **And it is doing this work AT GOD’S DIRECTION, AND DOING IT RIGHTLY, that will determine if we will be allowed to enter the kingdom of God and will make our salvation sure. This is what Paul was talking about when he said for us to work out our salvation WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING, lest we fall short of the will of God for our lives and lose out on heaven, like Lucifer and the fallen angels did before us.***

Therefore, we can now understand that God has a specific plan and way of doing things and how He expects us to carry out His purposes in the earth. Anything that departs from God’s way of doing things, as outlined in the Bible, is APOSTASY, or deviation from the true gospel

of Jesus Christ. Jesus made it clear in Matthew 7 above, that MANY will do powerful works in His name but will not be allowed to enter the kingdom of God because they did them for their own purposes and not at God's direction. I delve into this subject in detail in the teaching, 'The Great Deception'. There are MANY churches today who are on this false track and they are calling themselves Christian and working many great miracles and offering accurate prophecies, yet they are false prophets, apostles, etc. The only way you will not be deceived by these false Christian leaders is to know the Word of God in great depth and to listen to what comes from their mouths, because that is where the bad fruit will show itself. But for all intents and purposes, these false teachers will look like the real deal and will deceive MANY.

Matthew 24 –

³ Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

⁴ And Jesus answered and said to them: **"Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵ For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.**

We can see from these scriptures that Jesus is speaking about the end-times just before His return. The FIRST thing He tells us is to take heed, (or be careful) that we are not deceived. He follows this by saying that many will come in His name, (i.e., they will call themselves Christian) but will deceive MANY! This is exactly what we are seeing take place today. It is also what I explain in the teaching, 'The Great Deception'. But what we wish to examine further in this teaching is what the by product of that deception is and how God is involved in the whole thing.

The Strong Delusion:

In the teaching I recently did entitled, 'The Great Deception', I discussed several end-time deceptions that people would be held captive to and how to identify and avoid being deceived. One of the things that have led many Christians off track is the lie that there will be a pre-tribulation rapture of the church and that no true Christians will be around for the Antichrist to persecute. I have reviewed some of the scriptures above to show that the concept of a pre-tribulation rapture does not line up with what the Bible says and what Jesus and the apostles taught. Let us look at Revelation 20 as it pertains to this subject...

Revelation 20 –

¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

The Saints Reign with Christ 1,000 Years

⁴ And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. **Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.** ⁵ But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. **This is the first resurrection.** ⁶ **Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.**

Satanic Rebellion Crushed

⁷ Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea. ⁹ They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

The Great White Throne Judgment

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

*We can see in these verses that it describes **two resurrections**. The first one is the resurrection of the souls who died in Christ and it says that many of them were killed during the time of the beast/Antichrist, because they were witnesses of Jesus and the Word of God and they refused to take his mark and because of this they were beheaded. Any reasonable person would see that this is one and the same resurrection that Paul spoke of in Thessalonians above that will happen when Jesus returns. It clearly says here that it is the **FIRST** resurrection and that means there is no other resurrection or 'rapture' before this one because this one is the **FIRST**. If the saints were in heaven during the great tribulation, as many world-renowned Bible scholars claim, how did they get their heads cut off in the great tribulation? The answer is that **there is no pre-tribulation rapture of the church**. The church at large will partake in the great tribulation and that is how many will be refined, but also many will be found wanting in their faith and **many will fall away from the faith because they believed the lie of a pre-tribulation rapture**.*

*So why do so many theologians and other Christians believe in a pre-tribulation rapture? The answer is that they rejected the truth of the fullness of God's Word and as such, they rejected the **WHOLE** truth. Not only have they believed the lie of a pre-tribulation rapture,*

but they have believed and propagated many other lies. There are too many lies that the modern Christian church has believed and taught to enumerate here, but let us list a few...

One lie is 'once saved, always saved'. This false doctrine suggests that all one has to do is recite 'the sinner's prayer' and then they will get into heaven no matter what they do after that. There are many scriptures that let us know this is a lie. Anyone can give up their salvation and end up in hell and then the lake of fire, (which are not the same thing).

Matthew 7 –

¹⁵ **“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Therefore by their fruits you will know them.**

I Never Knew You

²¹ **“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²²Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’**

Here we see that there will be MANY Christians who walked in great, miraculous power that will NOT enter the kingdom of God. So where does this leave those people who did little of nothing in the name of Jesus and also worked lawlessness, (i.e., they failed to obey God)? Obviously they will also not enter the kingdom of God. As Peter said in I Peter 4 above, if the righteous are scarcely saved, where does that leave the unrighteous, (those who rebel against God)? Hebrews 6 says...

Hebrews 6 –

⁴ **For *it is impossible for those who were once enlightened*, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶*if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame.***

⁷ **For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; ⁸*but if it bears thorns and briers, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.***

The fire spoken of here is the lake of fire. People who taste the good things of heaven as Spirit-filled Christians and fall away from obedience to God, will end up in the lake of fire.

Revelation 21 –

⁷ **He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. ⁸But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers,**

idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

We see here that there are two categories of people in the earth...the overcomers, (verse 7) and everyone else, (verse 8). It is up to use as to which category we will choose to be a part of. Obviously most people will say they want to be in verse 7, but the truth is that MOST people, even those who call themselves Christian, will end up in the lake of fire if they do not change their ways. I discuss one of the lies that people believe about the grace of God in the teaching on the great deception, which is that they believe that they will be alright, because Jesus ‘knows their heart’ and that they can sin and there will be no consequence due to grace. Most of the New Testament writings teach against such a wrong doctrine and belief. But many choose to believe it any way and use this as an excuse to stand outside of God’s will for them and feel comfortable while in their rebellion. They will have a rude awakening when they get to hell, only then it will be too late!

Hebrews 10 –

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on *the testimony of two or three witnesses.* ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.” ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

This message is not one that is normally preached in modern churches, because it will scare away most people. But this is the truth according to God’s Word. If anyone rejects is they will no doubt end up in hell then the lake of fire.

Another lie that is propagated in the modern Christian Church is, ‘No one expects you to be perfect. Only Jesus was perfect.’ This is a popular lie taught from the pulpit because it excuses many behaviors and allows the person to once again feel comfortable in their walk in this life. But this is not what Jesus and the apostles taught. It also leads us into another popular ‘Christian lie’.

Matthew 5:48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

John 17 –

²⁰ “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²² **And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.**

*This scripture also stands against another lie that is taught in the church...‘God will share His glory with no man.’ Or some people says, “A man should not touch God’s glory.” In John 17 there Jesus tells us that it is the glory that God gave Him that He has given us in order that WE MAY BE MADE PERFECT! So in these verse, Jesus tells us that the **GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER**, (which is the knowledge of God, or the mind of Christ, see the teaching, ‘KNOWLEDGE – The Key to Perfection’) that comes to us through Jesus **is the KEY TO PERFECTION IN CHRIST**. So if humans are not to touch or share in that glory, how will they ever hope to become perfected in Jesus? The answer is...they will not and they probably will not even try. And that is exactly what Satan wants and why the idea that no one is perfect or can indeed be perfected on this side of death, is a doctrine of demons, but is very prevalent in the modern Christian Church. Thus we can see that the enemy has planted these false doctrines in the church in order to lead people astray and it is working because people are too lazy to actually investigate these things for themselves but would rather believe whoever is preaching the lies to them. But on Judgment Day neither the false leader, nor the lazy sheep will have an excuse that will be acceptable before God.*

Ephesians 4 –

¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ **till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;** ¹⁴ **that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,** ¹⁵ **but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—** ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

*These verses tell us how the return of Jesus will take place. There will be enough Christians who know what their ministry gifts are, as listed in verse 11, and will be obedient to God in the use of those gifts to help the body of Christ as a whole, become perfected and mature in Him and thus ‘grow up...into...the...Head’. That is why we do not know the day or the hour that Jesus will come back, because it depends on the church getting perfected. If the bride is not ready, how will the wedding start? **No wedding begins until the bride comes in.** Everything may be ready, but nothing happens until the bride enters. This is symbolic of the return of Jesus. And many, if not MOST, weddings do not start on the appointed time because the bride is not ready. But when the Father sees that the bride is prepared through righteousness, as we saw in Revelation 19 above, He will tell Jesus to come for us and not a minute sooner. That is why only the Father knows the time, because He knows what He wants to see before sending His Son back for the perfected church, (bride). And that is another reason that Jesus will not just return with us unaware. We WILL know the season for His coming because we are NOT living in the dark, just as Paul said to the Thessalonians church.*

Hebrews 6 –

¹Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, **let us go on to perfection**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ²of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³And this we will do if God permits.

If no one expected us to be perfect then why do the scriptures say otherwise? The simple reason is that is a lie. Do not believe it or you will become subject to delusion from God.

*There are other false doctrines of demons being taught in the modern Christian Church, but I will not get into them here. **Suffice it to say that the lies that I have discussed here are grounds enough for God to send forth a strong delusion to the modern church that they should 'believe the lie'. And the 'lie' that He will allow them to believe and defend so strongly, as though it is truth, is the concept of the pre-tribulation rapture. This lie is so entrenched in the Christian Church today that it is not only accepted as truth, but it has become the mainstream message that fills the airwaves, print and social media. There are probably not too many issues discussed with such heated debate as to the order of the return of Jesus in regards to end-time events, especially the great tribulation. This tells us that the strong delusion is already at work in the modern Christian Church. And. If Christians are deluded about the pre-tribulation rapture, what else might they be deluded about?***

I personally believe that God could do the same thing about any lie that people choose to believe. Delusion is not limited to the pre-trib rapture fairy tale, but can be part of ANY false Christian belief. It appears to be a principle that God uses that if someone chooses to believe in a lie, then God will allow that person to become attached to that lie and they will begin to incorporate that lie into their belief system. Once that lie is incorporated into the person's belief system, then no matter how many scriptures stand against the lie, that person will not believe the truth. It will also not usually matter what God does to punish the person or to try stop them from believing the lie. If that person is convinced the lie is the truth, then they will not heed God's attempts to stop them.

This is the issue with free will and God Himself cannot change it. He has offered us a choice to obey Him or not. Obedience leads to life and blessing and disobedience, or sin, leads to death and cursing from GOD HIMSELF. And there is another lie that many people have believed, that God will never curse His people. Deuteronomy 28 states otherwise.

Deuteronomy 28 –

¹ **"Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. ²And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God:**

³ *"Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.*

⁴ *"Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.*

⁵ *"Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.*

⁶ “Blessed *shall you be* when you come in, and blessed *shall you be* when you go out.

⁷ “The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

⁸ “The LORD will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

⁹ “The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways. ¹⁰ Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. ¹¹ And the LORD will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. ¹² The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. ¹³ And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe *them*. ¹⁴ So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, *to* the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

Curses on Disobedience

¹⁵ “**But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:**

¹⁶ “Cursed *shall you be* in the city, and cursed *shall you be* in the country.

¹⁷ “Cursed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl.

¹⁸ “Cursed *shall be* the fruit of your body and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

¹⁹ “Cursed *shall you be* when you come in, and cursed *shall you be* when you go out.

²⁰ “The LORD will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me. ²¹ The LORD will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from the land which you are going to possess. ²² The LORD will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish. ²³ And your heavens which *are* over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you *shall be* iron. ²⁴ The LORD will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed.

²⁵ “The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth. ²⁶ Your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and no one shall frighten *them* away. ²⁷ **The LORD will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed.** ²⁸ **The LORD will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of**

heart.²⁹ **And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you.**

³⁰ “You shall betroth a wife, but another man shall lie with her; you shall build a house, but you shall not dwell in it; you shall plant a vineyard, but shall not gather its grapes.³¹ Your ox *shall be* slaughtered before your eyes, but you shall not eat of it; your donkey *shall be* violently taken away from before you, and shall not be restored to you; your sheep *shall be* given to your enemies, and you shall have no one to rescue *them*.³² **Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, and your eyes shall look and fail with longing for them all day long; and there shall be no strength in your hand.**³³ A nation whom you have not known shall eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labor, and you shall be only oppressed and crushed continually.³⁴ So you shall be driven mad because of the sight which your eyes see.³⁵ The LORD will strike you in the knees and on the legs with severe boils which cannot be healed, and from the sole of your foot to the top of your head.

³⁶ “The LORD will bring you and the king whom you set over you to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods—wood and stone.³⁷ And you shall become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all nations where the LORD will drive you.

³⁸ “You shall carry much seed out to the field but gather little in, for the locust shall consume it.³⁹ You shall plant vineyards and tend *them*, but you shall neither drink *of* the wine nor gather the *grapes*; for the worms shall eat them.⁴⁰ You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you shall not anoint *yourself* with the oil; for your olives shall drop off.⁴¹ You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours; for they shall go into captivity.⁴² Locusts shall consume all your trees and the produce of your land.

⁴³ “The alien who *is* among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower.⁴⁴ He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail.

⁴⁵ **Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you.**⁴⁶ **And they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder, and on your descendants forever.**

⁴⁷ “Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything,⁴⁸ therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you.⁴⁹ The LORD will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, *as swift* as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand,⁵⁰ a nation of fierce countenance, which does not respect the elderly nor show favor to the young.⁵¹ And they shall eat the increase of your livestock and the produce of your land, until you are destroyed; they shall not leave you grain or new wine or oil, *or* the increase of your cattle or the offspring of your flocks, until they have destroyed you.

⁵² “They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the LORD your God has given you. ⁵³ You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you. ⁵⁴ The sensitive and very refined man among you will be hostile toward his brother, toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the rest of his children whom he leaves behind, ⁵⁵ so that he will not give any of them the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates. ⁵⁶ The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and sensitivity, will refuse^[a] to the husband of her bosom, and to her son and her daughter, ⁵⁷ her placenta which comes out from between her feet and her children whom she bears; for she will eat them secretly for lack of everything in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates.

⁵⁸ **“If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, THE LORD YOUR GOD, ⁵⁹ then the LORD will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues—great and prolonged plagues—and serious and prolonged sicknesses. ⁶⁰ Moreover He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. ⁶¹ Also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in this Book of the Law, will the LORD bring upon you until you are destroyed. ⁶² You shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven in multitude, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God. ⁶³ And it shall be, *that* just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess.**

⁶⁴ “Then the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known—wood and stone. ⁶⁵ And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul. ⁶⁶ Your life shall hang in doubt before you; you shall fear day and night, and have no assurance of life. ⁶⁷ In the morning you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were evening!’ And at evening you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were morning!’ because of the fear which terrifies your heart, and because of the sight which your eyes see.

Many Christians falsely believe that God will never curse them or make them sick and only the devil does that. These and other scriptures would say otherwise.

Deuteronomy 30 –

¹¹ “For this commandment which I command you today *is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off.* ¹² *It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’* ¹³ *Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’* ¹⁴ *But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.*

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, ¹⁶ in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His

statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong *your* days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. ¹⁹ **I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;* ²⁰ **that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days;** and that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”**

Here we can see that God has given us a choice. It is up to us to CHOOSE life and blessing or death and cursing, so when people are cursed of God, even if the devil gets to carry out that curse, it is really THEIR OWN FAULT that they are cursed. I have repeatedly seen people get angry with me and tell me that I cursed them when I tell them about this truth of God's curses for disobedience. But the church does not teach these things because they preach a false gospel, saying that Jesus took away all the curses and that God does not make people sick. But if God does not make His people sick or take away their stuff when they disobey Him, then exactly HOW does He punish their disobedience? I have heard famous preachers teach that God does chastise His children but they never say how He does it. If anyone can think of a way other than the ones laid out clearly in the scriptures, then please feel free to explain it to me, but you must do so by the truth that is in the Bible and no other means. Therefore, one can be assured if they are sick in their body, lack finances or are by any other means cursed, they are falling short of the will of God for their lives and are not being obedient to His Word. That is the truth according to the Bible.

So in conclusion, I believe that strong delusion is the way God leaves anyone who repeatedly refuses to believe and speak the truth of God's Word in its fullness, without regard to what people think or say and without regards to the consequences. It is simply the reward that people will receive for straying from the love of the truth, which is Jesus.

John 14 –

⁶ Jesus said to him, **“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”**

¹⁵ **“If you love Me, keep My commandments.**

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, **“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. ²⁴ He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.**

Loving the truth means obeying God. Anyone who does not obey God is not loving or abiding in the truth but is living a lie. When a person lives a lie, they are no longer children of God but become children of the Satan, who is the father of lies.

John 8 –

⁴¹ **“You do the deeds of your father.”**

Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³ Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. ⁴⁴ You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶ Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷ He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”

I John 3 –

⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. ⁸ He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

The Imperative of Love

¹⁰ In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother. ¹¹ For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, ¹² not as Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother’s righteous.

¹³ Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death. ¹⁵ Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

I John 4:6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

*So there you have it. People who do not love the truth, which is Jesus, will not obey God. Then they have deliberately chosen to be children of the devil. No child of the devil will enter the kingdom of God, whether or not they call themselves Christian. Because if they say they are Christian and do not obey Jesus, they are a hypocrite, which is a fancy name for liar. All liars will end up in the lake of fire, (Revelation 21:8). This life is a testing ground for humans to allow them to prove that they can obey God and will not chase the things of the world like Lucifer and his followers did. **Once a person has proven to God, through continuous rebellion, without desire or effort to change and that they will not obey Him, then God gives them over to a strong delusion that they believe the lie as the though it is truth, because they loved the lie, (world) more than the truth, (Jesus). They will be thrown into the lake of fire with all the other liars on Judgment Day. And they will only have themselves to blame, because Jesus offered them eternal life and all they had to do was obey Him and***

walk in love. The main lie that the Bible speaks of is the false teaching about a pre-tribulation rapture. This will not happen and those who believe in the lie will be deluded into believing that it will happen and that it is truth. They have and will develop many false teachings about scriptures to try and prove this lie to be truth. They will strongly defend their position and will refuse to hear the truth, regardless of who tries to convince them. This is the case already in the church today. It is this strong delusion that will cause people to fall away from the faith in large numbers when tribulation comes and they are still here. But this is not the only lie that God will bring a strong delusion concerning. ANY deception that a person walks in will eventually bring that delusion that the lie is true.

So if you read this, please repent to God for the error of your ways, regardless of the error, and ask Jesus to help you obey Him. Then DO what God tells you to do no matter the cost, no matter what people think of you, how you 'feel' or what you think you want. God knows what is best for you. Saying to God that you are sorry but continuing to do as you please is not repentance but hypocrisy. Repentance means you turn away from the way of error. If you believe you are 'ok' with Jesus and that He will somehow 'understand' or that 'He knows your heart', then you are deceived and may already be under the strong delusion that will end in disaster for you and eternal condemnation, hell and then the lake of fire. **God punishes us in one of two ways, through sickness and/or financial lack. If you suffer from either of these, or both, then it is an indication you are out of order with God and need to change your ways.** If you press past God's punishment, even if you claim you are Christian and claim to 'love' Jesus, God will eventually take away His hand and you may not have the troubles you had before, because He is giving you your reward here and now and you will burn in eternity. That is when the strong delusion has taken over in your life and you mistakenly believe you are on the right track when you are actually headed for the lake of fire. Wake up, before it is too late. Repent, change your walk and obey God today! Amen.

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Websites:

www.perfectchristian.co.za

www.perfectchristian.net78.net

e-mail - perfection777@live.com