

## The Art Of Deception

2 Timothy 3:1-17

## The Art Of Deception

- *1 Corinthians 3:18* "Let no man deceive himself. If any man thinketh that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool, that he may become wise."
- *Ephesians 5:6* "Let no man deceive you with empty words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience."
- *1 John 1:8* "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

## The Art Of Deception

- *1 Corinthians 6:9* "Or 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 men."
- *1 Corinthians 15:33* "Be not deceived: Evil companionships corrupt good morals."
- *Galatians 6:7* "Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

## The Art Of Deception

- *2 Timothy 3:13* "But evil men and impostors shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived."

## The Origin Of Deception

In the garden of Eden. Satan. 1 Timothy 2:14;  
Genesis 3:1-6

- Drew Eve into a negotiation. *Vs. 1, "Yea, hath God said?"*
- Misquotes God from Genesis 2:16. *(3:1) "Ye shall not of every tree..."* (KJV)
- Denies the danger. *(3:4) "Ye shall not surely die ..."* Jeremiah 23:17
- Promises advantage. *(3:5) Eyes open, be as gods.*
- Seeks to make God look unreasonable.

## Manner In Which We Are Deceived

Sometimes contrary to our will. 1 Kings 13

- Young prophet was sincere, couldn't be bought.
- But he was deceived by someone else, a false prophet ... "*He lied to him.*"
- Consequences still imposed.
- False teachers. Jeremiah 23; Romans 16:17-18; 2 Peter 2:20; 3:16

## Manner In Which We Are Deceived

- Sometimes according to our will.  
Galatians 6:2-3; Isaiah 30:8-10; 2 Timothy 4:2-4
- *1 John 1:8 "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."*

## We Deceive Ourselves ...

- By false thinking.
- Wishful thinking. Jeremiah 9:5; 37:9
- *"a man thinketh himself to be something ..."*  
cf. Romans 12:3; Luke 18:10-14

## We Deceive Ourselves ...

- By not hearing carefully. James 1:21-22;  
Matthew 7:24-27
- Take heed what ye hear. Matthew 10:27
- Take heed how ye hear. Luke 8:18

## We Deceive Ourselves ...

- By not bridling our tongue. cf. James 1:26
- Many times, instead of thinking and talking, we need to be listening. cf. Peter. Luke 22:31-34

## We Deceive Ourselves ...

- Misrepresenting our true condition.  
cf. Revelation 3:15-18
- Laodiceans thought they had it made ... *"Rich and have gotten riches, and have need of nothing."*
- *"Knew not ..."* God knows who and what we are.
- *"Wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked."*
- Thinking ourselves free from sin. cf. 1 John 1:8
- Need to *"examine yourselves."* 2 Corinthians 13:5

## We Deceive Ourselves ...

- Comparing ourselves among ourselves.  
2 Corinthians 10:12
- NOTE:
- Enoch & Noah, who walked with God. Genesis 5:22-24; Genesis 6
- Abraham. Father of the faithful, who obeyed God. Hebrews 11:9-10
- Moses. Wise choice. Hebrews 11:24ff
- Christ is the standard. Ephesians 4:13

## We Deceive Ourselves ...

By thinking like a fool. Luke 12:13-21

- Left God out of his life.
- Left man out of his life.
- Made self the center of everything.  
*"I", "My", "Me", "Mine."*
- Confidence in material things.  
*"Much goods laid up."*
- Counted on time that was not his.  
Verse 19. *"Many years."* cf. James 4:13-14

## God Cannot Be Deceived!

God is not mocked. Galatians 6:7-8; Hebrews 4:12-13

- David tried to conceal his sin ... God knew.  
2 Samuel 11-12; Psalms 51:1-4
- Though David deceived others, God knew.
- God knows all. 1 Peter 3:12; Romans 2:16;  
Numbers 32:23

## The Art Of Deception

- The Origin ... Satan.
- Manner ... Deceived by others.
- Manner ... Deceived by ourselves.
  - Wishful thinking.
  - Not listening carefully.
  - Talking when we should be listening.
  - Blind to our own condition.
  - False comparisons.
  - Thinking like a fool.

**But  
God  
Always  
Knows!**