



Vigilance Against Spiritual Deception

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“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. 8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward” (2 John 1:7-8).

Guerrilla warfare developed into a significant component in modern conflicts because the users recognised that they did not have the military might to survive in conventional battles. In a similar way Satan also recognises that his power is no match for God's hence he adopts deception, a covert strategy, as one of its key weapons in spiritual warfare. That is why many scriptures warns us to be vigilant against the wiles of the devil. A person who fails to heed such commands will fall foul into satanic traps, even when s/he is thinking that s/he is on the winning side! Let's examine some of these scriptural warnings, and learn how to prepare for victory.

- 1) 1 John 4:1 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
- 2) Matthew 7:15,16 - Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?
- 3) Isaiah 8:19 - To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.
- 4) Ephesians 6:11 - Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- 5) 1 Peter 5:8-10 - Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect,

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stablish, strengthen, settle you.

- 6) 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 - For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.
- 7) Matthew 24:3-5 - And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.
- 8) Matthew 24:23-27 - Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. 24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. 25 Behold, I have told you before. 26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. 27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
- 9) 1 Corinthians 10:12 - Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.
- 10) Revelation 2:29; 3:6,13,22 - He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.