

# Inspired by Elohim



Course material from the Holy Spirit inspired book,  
"The Kingdom of Darkness"



## Uncover the Roots

**IBE MINISTRIES COURSE**



*Inspired by Elohim*

IBE Ministries - 2021/791710/08





## **SEASON 2**

### **WEEK 3**

#### **THE STRONGMAN OF DECEIT**

For thus says the Holy Spirit,

“The spirit of Deception has power in exactly what it functions in; to deceive. It is a master at manipulation and sits and watches My servants to gain understanding in their weaknesses. It uses their weaknesses against them.”

“Does not My Word say that I am the strength of your heart? Yet many do not turn to Me in times of weakness but instead rely on their own hearts and follow their own ways and understanding. Yet the heart of man is wicked and deceiving. You cannot follow any other voice but Mine. You must follow My ways, My voice and My Word. When you follow your own will, you allow the enemy in to deceive.”

“King Ahab did not come to Me with his needs or desires. He succumbed to his weaknesses and that allowed that wicked Jezebel in to direct his ways to the enemy’s will and plans. His own wicked heart allowed in Deception and even a deceiving tongue was loosed on all those he surrounded himself with. Because he rejected My way and My voice, he surrendered himself to the enemy!”

“The same spirit deceived Eve, that serpent spirit came. She gave him power when she doubted My Word and allowed the spirit to deceive her through her own deceived heart. It is a wicked and sinful spirit that entices man to commit wilful sin against Me. “

“With it comes envy, greed, murder, slander, lies and many more wicked spirits. This Strongman can bring a legion of demons to enter a person because of its ability to deceive. Many people who are suffering from mental illnesses are occupied by this Strongman.”

“It will cripple you, it takes away your ability to know the path of truth and follow Me. Therefore, many of My sheep are lost, bound by this Deceiving spirit, thinking they are in My will yet their hearts are far from Me! Their hearts are occupied by the enemy. Their mind, will and emotions are controlled by the enemy, completely deceived.”

“Yes, you can have a tree of Deception growing within you as a weed, as well as a tree that is planted by Me. You have to root out the tree of Deception with its snake, by first opening your eyes to its Deception. Pray that I will give you eyes to see, ears to hear and a heart to receive My truth.”

“Unbelievers are mostly bound by this Strongman, therefore they cannot receive the Gospel of freedom. Religious leaders are also bound by this Strongman, therefore they cannot hear or see or understand the things of the Holy Spirit. They have a form of religion but they do not know Me or walk with Me. It is the lukewarm church. Bound to follow its own ways.”

“This Strongman gains a right to a life that lives in rebellion to My Word and My Spirit. This heart is not consecrated to Me fully, but many times this person has one foot in the world and one foot in My Kingdom. When I require complete and total submission. I desire ALL of your heart, mind and strength to be surrendered to Me. You must seek Me as your Master and decide to follow in My ways.”



“Else your yes is no longer your yes and you give way to the evil one to deceive you. Satan loves using Deception to cause My people to stumble. It is his favourite weapon as it takes down My people with ease. Those who know Me are those who love Me and obey Me. These are My sheep who will not follow the voice of any other.”

“I will still gather the sheep that have gone astray. As I gathered Peter when he was deceived. He allowed a lying spirit to come out of his mouth. I gathered him unto Me again by confirming his love for Me. For those who return to their first Love will be rooted in My truth again and every Deceiving spirit shall flee. This is how you gain the victory over this Strongman; by wearing the belt of truth. Truth will set you free. Use the sword of the Spirit to cut through the lies of the enemy. I faced Deception in the desert with truth and the sword of the Spirit and I won the battle.”

“Fasting, prayer and deep study of My Word will break the chains of this wicked spirit. Darkness cannot remain where My light shines forth. This person must get to know My voice and never again follow the dictates of their own heart and mind, but rather exercise obedience to My voice, taking every thought captive and bringing it to obedience of My Word. For My Word is truth.”

“Many of My servants must repent for false visions and dreams, and consecrate their gifts anew to Me. Surrender your gifts to My will and be obedient in all I tell you. Do not allow fear or rejection or bitterness to grow in you, as then you open wide the door for the enemy to exploit your gifts and use it for evil.”

“I desire **clean hands and a pure heart to have My glory dwelling within.** Repentance and surrender will make this enemy flee.”





## **DREAM**

In my pursuit to understand this Strongman, I had some dreams that I do not wish to repeat. They were that disturbing. I understand though that my dreams were necessary as it led me to uncover the evil of this wicked spirit. In the dreams, I was shown things like child molestation, rape and even adultery.

If we look at what happens when a child is molested or raped, we see this evil spirit is at work. The person who becomes the molester or the rapist uses one powerful tool to carry out his or her evil deeds, Deception. When we were growing up, our parents taught us never to take candy from a stranger. We were taught that this was what they would use to lure us into their traps and catch us and do bad things to us. We were also taught never to talk to strangers. Strangers had the ability to deceive you and because you were little, you could not possibly recognise the Deception.

What our parents did not realise, was that this evil was as close to us, as in our very homes. Children are abused by not only strangers but statistics show that more children are abused by family members and family friends than strangers. The deceit begins with the person setting out to do bad things to you but they pretend to have the best intentions instead. Many molesters will buy their victims gifts and shower them with kindness and love, waiting for the opportune time to set their trap. This kind of Deception is calculated, thought out and planned step by step. While being around the victim, it is all they can think about, all they desire and will do anything to get to their goal, doing sick evil things to the victim.

## **TESTIMONY**

For as far back as I can remember, I was molested by an uncle. I remember as far back as 3 years old, yet the abuse may have started even younger. My mother would send me to visit my grandfather for school holidays or weekends, without realising that the safe place she thought she was sending me to, was not so safe after all.

I had two uncles that lived there, both in their teenage years. I loved the one uncle, as he would always play fun games with me, take me to the park and make me laugh and giggle. The older brother was not so nice. When he saw an opportunity to take advantage of me, he would tell his younger brother that he wanted to show me something. I would instantly freeze as I knew what was coming. He would convince his younger brother to let me go with him and take me to an outside bathroom and play games with me.

I remember the last time it happened, I was about 8 years old and we were at a big family braai. It was getting dark and he came to me and asked me to come and look at something outside on the grass. Now by this time I had grown accustomed to being abused and yet still for some reason, I could not resist or reject or reach out for help. It was like something washed over me, my mind became numb and I just allowed it to happen. This time though, he told me to lie down on the grass. My mind has blocked out exactly what he did to me but I remember suddenly I felt things moving around on my head. The longer I lay the more I felt things crawling on my head. I had lain down in the exact spot on a massive ant colony! Thank God!



I jumped up and started screaming! I remember his panic because my screams were going to draw adults to us. Sure enough, other adults came on the scene and took me inside to see what was going on, on my head. I was asked after all the chaos what I was doing on the grass in the dark and I don't remember what I told them. But I know suspicion started growing around this boy from then.

Millions of children are abused today. In fact, I rarely meet a full-grown woman today who has not been molested or raped as a child. Because we do not recognise the Deception, we do not protect our children. It is exactly as the Holy Spirit revealed, someone who is deceived, does not know they are being deceived.

The same thing happens to women who are raped or young girls who become a toy for other young boys to use. Deception is used to lure the victim. The perpetrator sets his sights on his victim and starts planning his way around getting what he wants from the victim. Some will use charm, others will use gifts, others will use date rape drugs. It is the same spirit at work within each of them.

Now unfortunately, every person who has been led down the path of Deception, has now fallen prey to its web and has an open door to being deceived again. I remember while growing up and even into my early adult life, I used to trust people way too much. I believed all people had good hearts and no one really desired to hurt people. Even though I hated what my uncle had done, I felt sorry for him. Walking around with this belief, led me to fall prey to many more wicked hearts. At the age of 16, I had this boyfriend that would come around now and then. My parents went to a social event one night and I was left alone at home. This boy came around and offered me drugs. I had never taken drugs before and I had no idea what it would do to me. I took it, and shortly after he convinced me to quickly go to his house to fetch something. He lived in the back room by his parents.

I remember sitting down on his bed while he went to get something inside of the house. The next moment this drug kicked in and I started feeling very strange. I remember how this boy was suddenly back and on top of me. I told him to get off, I tried to fight but he was too strong for me. He did his thing and then left me to walk back home alone while feeling the effects of this drug.

I told no one what had happened to me. I knew I would be blamed for taking the drug. I knew they would say I was asking for it. So I remained quiet and avoided him instead.

This is the reality many young girls face in our society today. Boys are driven by one thing, and they will do anything to get it. In a society where we are breeding a culture that lives to please man, we are teaching our children that it is ok to deceive to get what you want. Becoming a victim to rape or molestation is the clearest way that we see this Strongman working. But it is not limited to that. We are taught to fight for what we want. We are taught to pursue our desires no matter what it costs us. In the process we are learning to deceive people and be led by the deceptions of our own hearts.

Many men and women marry people who completely deceived them. They act one way before marriage then once they tie the knot, the true personality surfaces. You see, the person desired something from the victim. They may desire your bank balance, they may desire a mate to clean up after them and cook for them, basically a live-in maid, they may desire someone to exploit in whichever way they can sexually, or even just to rule you and abuse you. Whatever they desire, they will use whatever means they can to deceive you and set the trap until they get what they want. The fruit is exposed as soon as they believe they have you and you can no longer leave.



This Strongman is at work in many areas of our lives. We see it happening in business deals, employers and employees, purchasing of goods for example buying a second-hand car and many more examples. People have become master manipulators and will do anything to deceive you, to do what they want you to do.

This may seem similar to Gluttony in its mind control, but there is a difference. Gluttony sways the will to do what is contrary to God's will. You go in knowing what you are doing and deciding within yourself that it is what you want. Therefore, your will has been swayed but you were fully aware of what you decided to follow.

Deception goes even deeper. People who are deceived, do not realise that they are being deceived. There is no active decision on their part to participate in being deceived. That is the whole point of Deception, you don't know what is busy happening until it is too late.

A few more words to explain Deception is craftiness, crookedness and cunning.

Deception has the power to destroy lives in an unprecedented way. Therefore, we need to learn to walk by the Spirit of God and be rooted in the Word. If we look at our world today, we can see clearly how Deception has taken hold of mankind. Its darkness has gripped the heart of man to such an extent, that it is hard to find trustworthy people today. You have to be very careful who you trust and you need to have discernment. Even the church is riddled with its filth. Thousands of believers are being deceived in the very place they go to for truth. Jesus warned us to watch out for Deception, over and over again.

My grandfather and grandmother had a good life together. They lived in a town in the Free-state and worked very hard to accomplish their dreams. My grandfather even built onto his house with his own two hands after he came home from work every day. I have never known a man that could work as hard as him. Even in his 70's, he still works harder than men in their 20's. They were so blessed that they were able to retire early. The house was paid off, the retirement savings were substantial and life was good.

My grandfather had a brother that was a pastor. He had just remarried and came to his brother with what seemed like the perfect way to retire. He told him about a farm in Waterval Onder that was selling for a good price and suggested they become farmers and live on the same farm, while he continued to minister to a local church.

My grandparents thought about it and it seemed like a good option as my grandfather loves gardening. What better way to spend the rest of his days than working with the land? His brother Danie, then started pushing him to make the decision in a hurry, as he was eager to go ahead. It meant that my grandparents would have to sell their house and cash out their retirement fund to purchase this farm 50/50 with Danie. So, they decided to take the plunge and do it.

The house sold quickly and in just a few months, they moved to their new farm, owned partly by the brother and his wife. My grandfather obviously trusted his own flesh and blood. They signed all the documents and never took it to their own lawyer to check first. They also did not really know this woman that Danie had married but she seemed like a nice person.

After moving in together, they realised quickly that living in the same house was not going to work. Therefore, my grandfather built his brother his own house. The woman he was married to started showing signs of manipulation.





She would regularly demand to get her own way and many times she would get them into a heated argument and once she even threw my grandmother with a pot in her back. This was very disturbing to all of us as a family as my grandparents were the nicest, sweetest people on planet earth. It wasn't difficult to get along with them.

They eventually realised they had made a mistake but now it seemed there was no way out of it. Little did they know their lives were about to be destroyed by Deception. After just a few years on the farm, the financial pinch was already beginning because Danie contributed nothing towards the farm and my grandmother went back to work. Then Danie and his wife started having tremendous marriage problems. Soon he realised that his wife was having an affair. Not long after that, my grandfather walked into his brothers' house, only to find him dead on the floor. He had shot himself. The only note he left said the following: 'I failed God.'

Their whole world had collapsed around them and to make matters worse, this woman started treating them like slaves. At first, they did not understand her behaviour until they got the shock of their lives again. She had sold the farm! They quickly scrambled to lawyers who went over the contract that was signed years before, only to be told that there was nothing they could do because the contract stated that Danie and his wife were the sole owners of the farm! And my grandparents had just signed it! His own flesh and blood had deceived him, his own brother had betrayed him. Danie not only failed God, he had failed his brother, taking his own life knowing the destruction he would leave in his brother's life. I want you to meditate on the fact that this was a pastor. He led a congregation for years! Yet he betrayed and deceived his own brother. What did he unleash upon his congregation? And what do we know about the people we trust to lead us in Christ?

They lost everything in a moment. Everything they had worked so hard for their entire lives! I still well up with sadness when I think about this story. I know the damage it caused. I saw its destruction.

My grandfather had a heart attack soon after and he had to go for triple bypass heart surgery. He died on the table. He then had an after-death experience that he doesn't talk about often. When he tells the story today, you can still see the fear in his eyes. He explains he started going down this dark tunnel for what seemed like forever. Then suddenly he came up and in front of him was the most beautiful perfect gardens, with Jesus standing right in front of him. Jesus simply looked at him. As their eyes met, he was suddenly yanked down this dark tunnel again for what seemed like forever. Again, he would come up and see Jesus. On and on this went until he thought it would never end. Then the doctors managed to resuscitate him. He told no one of his ordeal until years later.

After healing, my grandfather also had to go back to work. Thank God the person who bought the farm was sympathetic to their pain and allowed them to remain on the farm for another few years. The woman took her money and left. She soon got involved with another man. One day, my grandmother received a strange call. It was the man this woman had gotten involved with. He was phoning to check up on her because he started getting a feeling that she was deceiving him. She had already gotten all of his furniture out of him and now she wanted money. He wanted to understand if this was the kind of woman she was. My grandmother then proceeded to tell him everything about her. He was very thankful and could now manage to pry himself from her web. This woman got cancer of the liver soon after, and died. Justice was served.



Now the same thing happened to Adam and Eve in the garden. As soon as Eve allowed the serpent to deceive her, they lost everything. They were kicked out of their home, they lost intimate fellowship with God and they now had to work extremely hard to live. The ground was now cursed and hard labour produced very little. Even their children could now only be produced through the pain and suffering of child birth. Death also entered in.

This is what happens when we allow Deception in with its snake. The serpent then comes and steals, kills and destroys. From that moment on, up until now, no one in my family has had abundance. Every single person in our family is struggling and I can clearly see the works of Deception in all of our lives. Yet my family members are extremely hard workers. My uncle is an executive engineer for Eskom and even he has not been spared from Deception. He lost a lot of money on a plot of land he bought due to being deceived and he also lost a lot of money through a woman he was involved with for many, many years. She landed up cheating on him and then taking his house and all of his furniture.

My mother had the same fate. She had received an inheritance after my step dad's death and she spent it all on the new man in her life. The man who has broken her to the point of no repair. He used her money for new cars, gambling addictions, branded clothing and holidays. She lost everything to the point where she had to sleep on the streets sometimes. Yet when my dad died, she had a house that was almost paid off, a car that was paid off and insurance money that paid out. Deception destroyed her life.

I myself, have had the same fate. I started working really hard at the age of 17, for very little pay at a retail company. At one point, our manager quit and our area manager too. They employed a new area manager but did not find a manager. Our second manager broke her toe and stayed at home for months. Our store was a mess. So I took the challenge upon myself and taught myself how to do the admin and management and I ran the store. The area manager was so impressed he provisionally promised me a management position without putting it on paper. The retail group then went through a revamp and I only had five staff members. During the day, we had to remain open for customers and at night we had to move stock, break down shelving, build new ones and pack and unpack huge amounts of stock. I landed up working 24-hour days for a long time. I only got rest on weekends.

Then the area manager resigned and the new area manager told me he could not give me the manager role that was promised to me. He was transferring me to another store. I did not have a car so that was useless. I resigned. But that was the moment my life fell apart. Deception had had its way in my life and destroyed my life after that. I was plunged into a depth of darkness I do not wish to talk about today. Drugs, alcohol, sex and abuse became my new life. Only Jesus saved my life from the pit of hell I had fallen into.

When we allow Deception in, we allow the curse in. Deception always comes with a curse. We see this clearly in the story of Adam and Eve. It was this serpent that caused the curse to fall upon Adam and Eve.

**GENESIS 3:1 – 24** But the serpent was **shrewder (cunning/deceitful)** than any animal of the field that *Adonai Elohim* made. So it said to the woman, “**Did God really say**, ‘You must not eat from all the trees of the garden?’”





<sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “Of the fruit of the trees, we may eat. <sup>3</sup>But of the fruit of the tree, which is in the middle of the garden, God said, ‘You must not eat of it and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

<sup>4</sup>The serpent said to the woman, “You most assuredly won’t die! <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

<sup>6</sup>Now the **woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a thing of lust for the eyes, and that the tree was desirable for imparting wisdom.** So she took of its fruit and she ate. She also gave to her husband who was with her and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made for themselves loin-coverings. <sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of *Adonai Elohim* going to and fro in the garden in the wind of the day. So the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of *Adonai Elohim* in the midst of the Tree of the garden.

<sup>9</sup>Then *Adonai Elohim* called to the man and He said to him, “Where are you?”

<sup>10</sup>Then he said, “Your sound—I heard it in the garden and I was afraid. Because I am naked, I hid myself.”

<sup>11</sup>Then He said, “Who told you that you are naked? Have you eaten from the Tree from which I commanded you not to eat?”

<sup>12</sup>Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me—she gave me of the Tree, and I ate.”

<sup>13</sup>*Adonai Elohim* said to the woman, “What did you do?”

The woman said, “The serpent **deceived** me and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup>*Adonai Elohim* said to the serpent, “Because you did this,

Cursed are you above all the livestock  
and above every animal of the field.

On your belly will you go,  
and dust will you eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put animosity  
between you and the woman—  
between your seed and her seed.

He will crush your head,  
and you will crush his heel.

<sup>16</sup>To the woman He said,

“I will greatly increase your pain from conception to labour.  
In pain will you give birth to children.  
Your desire will be toward your husband,  
yet he must rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup>Then to the man He said, “Because you listened to your wife’s voice and ate of the tree which I commanded you, saying, ‘You must not eat of it’:



**Cursed is the ground because of you—  
with pain will you eat of it all the days of your life.**

**<sup>18</sup>Thorns and thistles will sprout for you.**

**You will eat the plants of the field,**

**<sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your brow will you eat food,  
until you return to the ground,**

since from it were you taken.

For you are dust,

and to dust will you return.”

<sup>20</sup> Now Adam named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all the living. <sup>21</sup> *Adonai Elohim* made Adam and his wife tunics of skin and He clothed them. <sup>22</sup> Then *Adonai Elohim* said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil. So now, in case he stretches out his hand and takes also from the Tree of Life and eats and lives forever,” <sup>23</sup> *Adonai Elohim* sent him away from the Garden of Eden, to work the ground from which he had been taken. <sup>24</sup> And He expelled the man; and at the east of the Garden of Eden, He had *cherubim* dwell along, with the whirling sword of flame, to guard the way to the Tree of Life.

The serpent knew exactly what to say to entice Eve into disobedience to God’s Word. As soon as she listened to him, she twisted the actual Word of God and her heart deceived her through seeing the tree as desirable and good for imparting wisdom. They had many wonderful trees to eat from and wisdom comes only from God. She not only listened to Deception but she also followed the desires of her own heart. Her husband simply followed in her footsteps. Representing those that simply run after the crowd to do evil. This unleashed the curse against all of them because only abiding in the Truth of God, brings life, peace, protection from evil and blessing. Even the ground became cursed because of Adam’s disobedience.

How many men still feel today that their ground is cursed? You work extremely hard but your money just never goes far enough no matter what you earn? The more you earn, the more it goes out the door. All the years of your hard labour has gotten you nowhere. Is it possible that you have allowed Deception in at some point and unleashed a curse against you?

The curse also removed them from what could give them eternal life; the tree of life. And they lost their home. Do you feel like you are always losing your homes? Or even possessions? To no fault of your own you always seem to have extremely bad luck in your possessions. Things just go wrong no matter what you try to do right. People deceive you and trap you and you have lost so much money you cannot keep track anymore. The curse of Deception is upon your life.

My grandparents later moved into town and their son bought a house for them. A few years later they were asked to leave this house as he wanted to buy them a new house closer to him. This house was promised to be their home until they died one day. So they trusted their own flesh and blood again, and left everything they loved and moved. After just a few short years the house was pulled out from under them again. Their son had put the house in the woman’s name that he was involved in and she wanted the house sold. She convinced him to sell the house and buy two small houses for each of their parents in the city. My grandparents would never cope in the city. My grandfather became bitter. What are the chances of having to deal with this kind of betrayal from your own flesh and blood, twice in your life?



All the money they had put into the first house, they were asked to leave and now this house too, that they were told would be theirs for good, was gone now.

Now they had to find a house that they could afford to rent with only their pension fund each month. The woman got her house bought for her mother and my grandparents were left in the cold.

It placed tremendous strain on their relationship with their son and it took a long time for forgiveness to take place. They managed to find a small home on a plot that had a large garden. Here they settled in and my grandfather did what he always did. He laboured on this land and transformed the landscape into the most beautiful gardens. All at his own cost. They fixed up the house and even painted it and for a while they were happy there. Then out of the blue, the landlord gave them a months' notice and told them his kids wanted to come live there. Again, they lost everything.

This time, they could only find the tiniest place I have ever seen to rent and there are barely any gardens. Soon after moving my grandfather was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. The stress had gotten too much for his body and his brain was starting to shut down. It is sad to watch him today, barely remembering loved ones or past events. I hate what this spirit has done to the man I loved and respected all of my life. It broke the strongest and kindest of men. During my childhood years, when I was suffering abuse at the hands of my step-dad, my grandfather noticed the blue marks all over my little body and he grabbed my step-dad, even though no one messed with my step-dad. He grabbed him and told him that he would have to deal with him, should he ever touch me again.

He was the only one that ever stood up for me as a kid. He was my hero. Now I had to watch him suffer at the hands of such Deception and be destroyed by it.

We see the same thing happening with Moses and Israel. Moses warns Israel that God will send the curse against them if they do not obey the voice of the Lord their God and all of His laws. He will not only curse them, He will curse their bodies, the work of their hands, their food, their enemies will rule over them and they will be expelled from the land flowing with milk and honey.

We see later in Scripture, this is exactly what happened to Israel, they became sick, their enemies came against them and won, they became slaves and worst of all, they were expelled from their homes and lands. They lost everything. God expelled two tribes for 70 years and the other ten has to this day, still not returned.

**PSALM 37:22 + 29** For His blessed ones inherit the land.

**But those He curses will be cut off.**

The righteous will inherit the land  
and dwell in it forever.

**JEREMIAH 23:10** For the land is full of adulterers.

**The land mourns because of a curse.**

Pastures of the wilderness are dry.

Their running is evil,  
and their might is not right

**MALACHI 2:1 – 2** "So now, *kohanim*, this commandment is for you.

<sup>2</sup> If you will not listen,

and if you will not take to heart to give glory to My Name"





—says Adonai-Tzva'ot—

**“then I will send the curse on you,  
and I will curse your blessings.**

Yes, indeed I have cursed them,  
because you did not take it to heart.

**LEVITICUS 18:24 – 25** “Do not defile yourselves in any of these things, for in all of these ways the nations which I am casting out before you were defiled. <sup>25</sup>The land has become defiled, so I will punish its iniquity, and **the land will vomit out its inhabitants.**

These were pagan nations that God was speaking about! They were not given the Old Testament laws. Yet they were not spared from the curse of Deception. The entire world with all of its inhabitants will be judged and punished according to God’s justice and righteousness. Whether they know it or not. The land becomes cursed because of the evil that man commits upon it and it brings the curse of Deception because they walk in lies and not in the truth of God’s ways. Nations are under a curse and the fruit is clearly seen. In South Africa, Deception has ruled from its government all the way to its people and therefore battles are ensuing for the land. The land just went through years of drought and the fruit of the ground was cursed. Now the battle for the land is leading to bloodshed because the land is under a curse and we have allowed Deception into our nation.

**PROVERBS 3:33** *Adonai’s* curse is on a wicked house,  
but He blesses a righteous home.

**MATTHEW 25:31 – 46** “Now when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them from one another, just as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And He will put the sheep on His right, but the goats on His left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, **you who are blessed by My Father, inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

<sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger and you invited Me in; <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

<sup>37</sup>“Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You? Or thirsty and give You something to drink?’ <sup>38</sup>And when did we see You a stranger and invite You in? Or naked and clothe You? <sup>39</sup>When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’

<sup>40</sup>“And answering, the King will say to them, ‘Amen, I tell you, whatever you did to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then He will also say to those on the left, ‘Go away from Me, **you cursed ones**, into the everlasting fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink; <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not invite Me in; naked and you did not clothe Me; sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’

<sup>44</sup>“Then they too will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not care for You?’ <sup>45</sup>Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Amen, I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me.’ <sup>46</sup>These shall go off to everlasting punishment, but the righteous into everlasting life.”



Jesus tells us that we should now look even further than this current life. The blessing of God upon the righteous will not only bless their current life but have everlasting blessing for them. In the same way the wicked will be cursed, not only in this life but they will also have the curse upon them when Jesus returns.

**MALACHI 4:5 – 6** “Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and terrible day of *Adonai*. <sup>24</sup> He will turn the hearts of fathers to the children, and the hearts of children to their fathers—else I will come and **strike the land** with utter destruction (curse).”

**ZECHARIAH 5:3 – 4** He said to me: “This is **the curse that goes out over the face of the whole land**: everyone who steals will be swept away from here according to it, and everyone who swears will be swept away from here according to it.” <sup>4</sup> “I will send it out”—it is a declaration of *Adonai-Tzva’ot*—“and it will enter into the house of the thief and into the house of the one who swears falsely by My Name and will reside inside his house destroying it, both its wood and its stones.”

Notice here that God is sending the curse upon the land, as well as the homes of those who walk in Deception because of stealing and deceiving.

**JOSHUA 9:22 – 23** Then Joshua summoned them and he spoke to them saying: “Why have you **deceived** us saying: ‘We are very far from you,’ when you are living among us? <sup>23</sup> Now therefore, **you are cursed**, and you will never cease to be servants, wood-choppers and water-carriers for the House of my God.”

Many ministries and churches are struggling under financial pressures and obtaining land to do the work of God. The blessing of God just never seems to come. Some turn away from the right paths by doing deceitful things to get money and purchase their land. It won't last because the curse of God has been unleashed against you. Others just wither away and many lose their faith because they never see the provision God promises in His Word. I urge you to look deeply at your life and your ministry or church in prayer.

Is it possible you opened the door to Deception? Did you perhaps allow Deception in through false doctrine or false teachers or even through events that you allowed yourself to be deceived by people? Somewhere, there is Deception with its snake. Find it and chop off its head, then the blessing of God will be restored in your life.

Some people are business owners and you can clearly see the curse of Deception working against your business. Again, you must look where Deception entered in and remove it with its snake, in order to receive the blessing of God on your business.

Finally, we can awaken to its evil and realise that Jesus has the power to free us from the curse. As He became a curse for us! It is time to nail the curse to the cross and break free from the snake that so easily entangles us! Uncover the Deception in your life that has led you away from the Truth of God's Word and repent. Turn back to follow God and His ways and God will restore your blessings.

**2 CHRONICLES 7:13 – 14** If I shut up heaven that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, <sup>14</sup> when My people, over whom My Name is called, humble themselves and pray and seek My face and **turn from their evil ways**, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin **and will heal their land**.



During the writing of this chapter, I was attacked one night during my sleep. This has not happened to me in years. The enemy knows I have no fear for it, I hate him with a passion and therefore will not tolerate his attacks. I know the power of the name of Jesus! During the attack, it felt like something was trying to suffocate my face while I slept. I remember telling myself to wake up. After a struggle, I finally woke up. As I awoke, the enemy fled because he knows, it is useless when I am awake. So I went back to sleep knowing it was gone.

This has reminded me of experiences I have had in the past. One time, I was busy worshipping God when suddenly the most beautiful face I had ever seen appeared before me. His face was right up against my face. He was extremely handsome with the most beautiful blue eyes. As I looked at the face, I heard the Holy Spirit whisper in my ear ... 'satan.' When I recognised him, he was gone! Again, a week later, I was in prayer. Suddenly I had a vision of the most beautiful angel I had ever seen. I cannot even put into words the beauty of this angel. He was filled with beautiful colours all around and within him. Again, I heard the Holy Spirit whisper, 'satan'. As soon as I recognised him, he was gone.

You see, satan holds no power over you if he cannot deceive you. His power lies in Deception. As soon as you allow Deception in, you allow the principalities of Death, Gluttony and Abaddon in, to wreak havoc upon your life. The curse is unleashed because you are no longer abiding within Truth. Truth is what keeps you safe. Truth is what guards you from the evil one. The belt of Truth is our protection that keeps our garments on. Without it, we become exposed. Without it, our nakedness is exposed! That means we are vulnerable, weak and defiled.

Many have experiences at night while they sleep or some even while they are awake of demonic attacks. Please be aware, no spirit you see is the spirit of a dead person. It is a demonic entity revealing itself to you. These demons are spirits of Deception! They are trying to deceive you into believing they have power over you. They want you to fear them, they want you to think you have done something wrong or that your house is haunted. Yes, they can attach themselves to objects and even houses, but the main goal is Deception. God will many times give you dreams about snakes to warn you. If you dream of a snake, make sure to TAKE NOTE! God is warning you that Deception is at your door. Pray and fast immediately and ask God to bring the lie into the Light.

Once you are deceived, demonic spirits have power over you to wreak havoc upon your life. Jesus said He has given us power over serpents and scorpions and all the power of the enemy, yet when you fear these entities, you are calling Jesus a liar and believing the enemy. This is how Deception traps you. You feel justified to fear, you reason within yourself, you run to deliverance ministers to come clean out your house, yet God told you His TRUTH. Why are you believing the lie? That was exactly what the serpent did with Eve ... but God did not really say? He makes you question the Word of God. By the time he was done with Eve, she was so confused about what God had said, she completely twisted what God had actually said.

We all do this. Circumstances in our lives come and test us. We then hear this little whisper that questions the Word of God. Then we assure ourselves that God will understand our disobedience. A favourite saying among believers today is, 'God knows my situation, or God knows my heart.' Your heart is deceitful above all else.





As if our circumstances justify somehow disobedience to the Word of God. Eve justified her actions. So did Adam. And they ate. It is wilful sin when you know what you are doing is contrary to the Word of God. What we did not realise until now, was that we are being tricked by the master of manipulation; Deception.

Jesus faced this serpent in the desert. Each time he tried to deceive Jesus. Each time Jesus used the Word of Truth, filled with the Spirit of truth. Jesus won! Will you?

**LUKE 4:1 – 14** *Yeshua*, now filled with the *Ruach ha-Kodesh*, returned from the Jordan. He was led by the *Ruach* in the wilderness <sup>2</sup>for forty days, being tested by the devil. Now He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He was hungry.

<sup>3</sup>The devil said to Him, “If You are *Ben-Elohim*, tell this stone to become bread.”

<sup>4</sup>*Yeshua* answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup>And leading Him up, the devil showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to Him, “I’ll give to You all this authority along with its glory, because it has been handed over to me and I can give it to anyone I wish. <sup>7</sup>Therefore, if you will worship before me, all this shall be Yours.”

<sup>8</sup>But answering, *Yeshua* told him, “It is written, ‘You shall worship *Adonai* your God, and Him only shall you serve.’”

<sup>9</sup>Then he brought *Yeshua* to Jerusalem and placed Him on the highest point of the Temple. He said to Him, “If You are *Ben-Elohim*, throw Yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup>For it is written,

‘He will command His angels concerning you,  
to guard you,’

<sup>11</sup>and ‘upon their hands they will lift you up,  
so that you may not strike your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>12</sup>But answering, *Yeshua* said to him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put *Adonai* your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup>And when the devil had completed every test, he departed from Him until another occasion.

Notice how well satan knows the Word of God. He uses it in a way to twist our understanding of it and do something contrary to His Word. Therefore we must walk by the Spirit of God/*Ruach*! For it is only the Holy Spirit that can keep our feet grounded in the Word correctly. Shockingly many believers never even read the bible! How will you know if you have been deceived if you never read the Word of Truth never mind knowing the Spirit of Truth?

My first time I began a forty-day fast I knew the enemy would come to test me as he tested Jesus. And sure enough, he did. One day, this thought entered my mind out of nowhere. It whispered, ‘Why don’t you just take your life?’ “No one will even miss you.” I immediately discerned the voice of the enemy and responded, ‘you shall not test the Lord your God.’ Immediately the voice was gone! Victory!

Jesus used the sword of the Spirit and the belt of truth. The Spirit of God gives you the discernment to know and recognise the enemy and the Word of God cuts the enemy to pieces. We must walk in Spirit and Truth!



**JOHN 4:23 – 24** But an hour is coming—it is here now—when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people as His worshipers. <sup>24</sup>God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

To worship God in this context is to honour Him and bow down to Him by submitting yourself to His Spirit and His Truth. This is true worship. A heart that loves God will walk in obedience to His Spirit and His Word. Even witchcraft, curses and voodoo fall under the Strongman of Deception.

Days before I started focusing on this Chapter, my husband had a dream about snakes the one night. That same night my best friend had a dream about a woman holding a snake, and she took the snake from the woman. The snake then bit her on her index finger and as she was driving in her car with her child, she started feeling ill.

The next morning, we were off to town very early and I felt like stopping at a coffee shop for breakfast. On the way there, my best friend had shared her dream with me and I was pondering the interpretation. I knew that the index finger was a reference to the prophet but I had no idea what the dream meant. It was also strange how my husband had also dreamt of snakes the same night. I did not take the warning and I did not pray. I made a vital mistake to not listen to God as He was warning me of something.

We sat down at the coffee shop to order our breakfast. I ordered a breakfast wrap and when our food came, we all started enjoying it. After about four bites, I looked down at my food and realised there was something strange sticking out of my food inside of the wrap. On further inspection I found it was plastic! They had brought me food that was cooked with a piece of plastic wrapper inside!

We left the coffee shop disappointed but continued on our day. As the day progressed and we were driving around, I started feeling ill. By the time we arrived back home that night I was extremely ill. I had a massive headache and my stomach was feeling extremely sick. I realised that the toxins from the plastic had seeped into my food and even though I had just had a few bites it toxified my body! I had some activated charcoal and went to bed. Thankfully I felt much better the next day.

It took a few days before I realised God had tried to warn me. The dreams about snakes were a warning to me, the prophet, that Deception would cause me harm. The plate of food was presented to me and I had no idea what was concealed inside. As I ate, I was oblivious to the toxins I was consuming, carefully concealed inside my food. It was a plate of Deception. And because I did not listen to the Holy Spirit, I ate and I paid the price. This is the perfect picture to explain to us the danger of not listening to the Holy Spirit and being deceived. It will cost us! It could cost us money, health, life and many other things. If only we would learn to listen.

This in turn sent me on a path of uncovering the lies of the enemy in many other areas like plastic pollution. You can look forward to the Holy Spirit exposing all of these lies in another book that will be written in this series called, the Kingdom of Man.

**PROVERBS 26:2** Like a fluttering sparrow or a flying swallow,  
so an undeserved curse does not land.

Take notice that this Scripture clearly tells us that a curse that has no right, will not land on its intended victim. Why is it that so many people get affected by a curse? We also live in fear towards those who do witchcraft and sends curses towards us. Why do we fear the enemy? And why do these things affect us?



An undeserved curse will not fall so we must be deserving. I now realise that we become deserving when we open the door for Deception. Where Deception is, so will the curse be, and every curse that is sent will surely fall because we are not walking in God's truth. I have even heard of warlocks and witches and satanists sending curses upon churches and church leaders. Soon these churches are closed and the pastor is dead. What!? Since when does satan hold more power than Christ? Why would a satanist hold more power than a pastor?

A curse without cause shall not fall! But because the church and the leaders have opened wide the door for Deception, every curse has a cause and darkness is overpowering the Light!

We fear and run from the satanists and all of their works done in darkness, they mutilate animals and offer child sacrifices. They curse everything they can and manipulate and live off the fear of others. This is completely upside down. They should fear us. They should run when they see us. About two years after salvation, David and I were praying one night together. We had both gone to a certain nightclub before salvation for many years. It was the longest standing nightclub in South Africa. It had begun in Joburg in the 80's and was still running in another location in 2015.

We had become a part of the furniture there for years. We realised many people were bound to this club as most people would never be able to stay away. Even people in their 60's were still going to the club doing drugs and drinking. The club inside was painted with all kinds of faces of past music legends. It was rife with witchcraft and evil.

That night as we prayed, I suddenly felt led by the Holy Spirit to seek God to free the souls that were bound by the demons of this club. I realised it was demons that kept drawing them back to this club. They could never break free because of this bondage. So we prayed and sought the Lord for freedom for these souls. We prayed once. A simple request to the Lord.

One month later we got the shock of our lives! The nightclub had closed down within a month! The longest standing nightclub that everyone said would never shut its doors, was closed! God had answered our prayers! Incredible! All those souls had now been freed because there was no more club to tempt them and lead them down to paths of destruction. We were amazed at the power of God and how He just did what we asked. This is the power the church is supposed to hold! Not the other way around! Satan should not be closing our churches, we should be closing bars, taverns, clubs, satanic churches and more!

What happened as Jesus went from town to town? Every demon shrieked and asked Him to leave them alone. They knew who He was and they did not dare stand against Him. One word from Him and they fled! He even faced the enemy face to face, in His weakest state and won. Satan entered many around Him to tempt Him and overcome Him. He could not gain the victory over Christ. It is like throwing grass at a wall and expecting it to break!

**ALL POWER BELONGS TO CHRIST UNDER HEAVEN AND UPON THE EARTH! HE IS ALL POWERFUL AND HAS LEGIONS OF ANGELS THAT WILL FIGHT AT HIS COMMAND.**

And we fear the enemy! We fear Halloween. We fear satanists. We fear demons. We fear curses and witches. We even fear water spirits. We throw salt around our houses and do all kinds of rituals that is nowhere to be found in Scripture. The enemy is laughing at our foolishness. Yet all we have to do is to draw near to God by believing Him and obeying Him, recognise the enemy and resist him, and he flees.





The snake will try to deceive you in many forms and many ways. All of the above is from the serpent of Deception. Many people believe in ancestral spirits and perform all kinds of rituals to these spirits. When these people come to know Jesus and you do deliverance on them, the manifestation will be severe. Think of a snake, what happens when you try mess with it? It hisses and performs and stands upright and growls and gets violent. The same thing happens when you deliver someone with a serpent of Deception. Many cults believe in their ancestral spirits who watch over them; many African cultures and Indian cultures and American Indian cultures all believe in this Deception.

It is simply demons of Deception that these people are communicating with. The same thing happens with fortune tellers and new age beliefs as well as people who claim to communicate with the dead, they are communicating with spirits of Deception.

Black magic, reading of tarot cards, astrology, yoga, meditation, new age, Ouija boards and everything of the like, is all rooted in the Strongman of Deception. If you have participated in any of these things, you need deliverance from the Deception and its snake. Bind the Strongman of Deception and command the snake to come out. The snake will be whatever it is you participated in and were deceived by. In other words, fortune telling, tarot card reading and astrology ... command the snake of divination to get out.

Many people cannot receive the Holy Spirit because they are bound by the Strongman of Deception. Unbelievers cannot receive the truth of the Gospel because the lie has blinded their minds. If you know of a person who is participating in all of these things and they just cannot receive the Gospel, pray and bind the works of the Strongman of Deception and command its snake to get out and then preach the Gospel to them again. I believe this is going to make a phenomenal difference in the lives of unbelievers!

**ACTS 16:16 – 18** It so happened that as we were going to prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination, who was bringing her masters much profit from her fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> Following after Paul and us, she kept shouting, saying, "These men are servants of *El Elyon*, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation." <sup>18</sup> She kept doing this for many days. But Paul was irritated and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Messiah *Yeshua* to come out of her!" And it came out of her that very moment.

It is interesting to see this spirit of Deception, recognise the truth in Paul and the men that were with him. I am not sure why this girl followed Paul around, irritating him. It could be possible that these spirits cannot help but speak the truth in the Presence of the Holy Spirit. We see the same thing happening to Jesus. The demons would proclaim Him as the Messiah before any of the people understood that He was the Messiah. It is as though the Holy Spirit is so powerful that He causes every demonic presence to speak the truth! They cannot help but suddenly be truthful and expose themselves.

I want you to notice here that Paul cast out this spirit of divination without asking the girl for permission first or even leading her to repentance. He discerned the devil and cast it out. I believe we can do the same if we discern a spirit that is preventing someone from receiving the Gospel. The fruit is evident in these people. They know that God is real. They know that you are a true Christian and they are happy for you to follow Christ. But for some reason, they just cannot bring themselves to follow Christ. They want to, but they just don't. Bind these spirits and preach to them the Gospel and take notice of the difference.



Another thing I want to mention is the blaspheming of the Holy Spirit.

**MATTHEW 12:22 – 32** Then a demon-plagued man, who was blind and mute, was brought to *Yeshua*; and He healed him, so that he spoke and saw. <sup>23</sup> All the crowds were astounded and saying, “This can’t be *Ben-David*, can it?”

<sup>24</sup> But hearing this, the Pharisees said, “This fellow drives out demons only by beelzebul, the ruler of demons.”

<sup>25</sup> Knowing their thoughts, *Yeshua* said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is destroyed, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. <sup>26</sup> If satan drives out satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup> And if I drive out demons by beelzebul, by whom do your sons drive them out? For this reason, they will be your judges. <sup>28</sup> But if I drive out demons by the *Ruach Elohim*, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>29</sup> Or how can one enter a strong man’s house and carry off his property, unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he will thoroughly plunder his house. <sup>30</sup> He, who is not with Me, is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

<sup>31</sup> “For this reason I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but blasphemy against the *Ruach* will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup> Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the *Ruach ha-Kodesh* will not be forgiven, neither in this age nor in the one to come.”

Now in the context of the text, we see Jesus is being accused of casting out demons by the power of satan. Jesus rebukes their foolishness and tells them that it is not possible because a kingdom divided against itself will not stand. Then He gives a stern warning, blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. It is the only sin that cannot be pardoned. In other words, if you see someone moving in the power of the Holy Spirit and they are casting out devils and healing the sick and raising the dead, and you say they are doing those things by the power of the devil, you have just blasphemed the Holy Spirit. You called the works of God, the work of the devil.

Now our understanding is growing rapidly to see that we really, really need the discernment of spirits! If we don’t discern the works of Deception, we allow this demon in with all of its Deception to wreak havoc upon our lives. If we don’t discern the work of the Holy Spirit, we commit the unpardonable sin! I would say it is VITAL to discern different spirits! At least we know when demons are cast out, it can only be the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit has the power to cast out demons.



## DREAM

I dream I am standing in front of this valley. I look and see a field marked in the valley and two men standing by the field. The one man speaks and points to the field. He says, "I am telling you, by summer this field will have kelp growing in it." I then looked and I saw a field of flower-like plants that were yellow, growing in the field. The dream was not clear but almost shadow-like.

I woke up and realised it is a deceiving spirit. Kelp does not grow on land but in the ocean. It is not a plant but an organism. It was a false prophecy and a false vision.

**MATTHEW 24:24** For false messiahs and false prophets will rise up and show great signs and wonders so as to lead astray, if possible, even the chosen.

Jesus tells us two very important things here. First, we need to understand that miracles are not always from God. We see this picture clearly when Moses comes before Pharaoh and performs signs that even Pharaoh's diviners could do. Satanists, witches and warlocks have power to perform signs and wonders. But if we see signs and wonders that are from the Holy Spirit and we say it is not, we have blasphemed the Holy Spirit! Secondly Jesus tells us that it is possible for even the saints to be deceived by Deception in following false messiahs and false prophets.

Therefore, how do we know the difference? How do we discern between spirits and wonders and signs and false prophets?

For thus says the Spirit of God,

"My children listen and I will tell you great and magnificent things which you have not known and have not understood in times past. My children must know their enemy. Therefore, I am releasing fresh revelation from Heaven to expose the works of darkness. Have I not shown you so much already My daughter?"

"Look! Take a deep look at all I have revealed to you, to know and discern the enemy's works. Many are lost in their sins and many will discard these revelations I have given in this book."

"Then you will know them by their fruit. For those who do not desire to bring what is in darkness, into My glorious light, are those that walk-in darkness and love their evil deeds and pleasures of the world more than they desire Me. This book is an exposing of darkness, the kingdom of darkness as well as the darkness that lies in the heart of man. Many will not come to the light that has been given, just as many rejected the Light when He came down from Heaven, because their deeds were evil."

"You ask Me to explain how you can discern between good and evil. I never desired My people to walk this path alone, for I alone am good, therefore discernment can only be found in Me. For I am the tree of life and you must eat of My fruit and be nourished by it to resist evil."

"In overcoming evil with good, no temptation will be able to take hold of you or bring you into a snare. Rely on Me to guide you and listen to My voice to point out evil to you in the hearts of man. For I shall surely guide you and no man shall be able to blind you. For Rebeckah, do I not even show you the thoughts and intentions of man, while you sleep? Have I not warned you of those who mean you harm? Do not return evil for evil, but resist a wicked person and even they shall flee from you."





“Then, concerning prophecy and teachings that are false. My sheep must know My voice. For only when you know My voice will you not follow the voice of a stranger. Therefore, I will uncover the Deception, I will warn you and I will protect you, as you surrender to Me. Fear not little flock, am I not mighty to save? Guard yourself against Deception by surrender to Me. When you follow My voice, you will not be deceived.”

“It is like following a roadmap, but the map is not lines drawn of roads, but rather the sound of My voice that whispers in your ear, ‘this is the way, walk in it.’ Following My voice and knowing My Word, will be your body armour and your shield and you shall slay every demon with every serpent and no man shall gain the upper hand over you. For I shall make you the head and not the tail and I will not allow your enemy to rule over you or the wicked to harm you.”

“You shall know the truth when you hear it, for you have learnt to know the voice of truth. When you do not recognise what you are hearing as truth, know that it is a lie and therefore, it should be discarded. As long as you have come to know the voice of Truth, you will know truth when you hear it and even when your eyes see it.”

“You cannot walk in union with Me and not know the works of My Spirit when it is performed. For those who walk with Me, shall themselves see the works of My hand in their own lives, therefore they recognise My works when they see it. **The only way is the way of the Son, the journey of the Spirit and the destination of the Father.**”

While Abba was speaking, a few things came to my remembrance that I need to share. Over the years wherever we moved, we would encounter snakes. Different kinds of snakes, some very poisonous and aggressive and some tiny and harmless. But from the beginning in walking with the Holy Spirit, as I got to know His voice, He would warn me every time I was about to encounter a snake, well before the time. I had a tremendous fear for snakes. But as He showed me that He always warned me beforehand and even helped me face them with courage, the fear lessened. I remember the last time I came face to face with an Egyptian spitting cobra, it was staring me down and as I looked at it, I realised I had nothing to fear. I was careful of course, but fear left. The Holy Spirit would tell me every time, a little whisper in the ear, ‘You are going to find a snake soon’ or ‘Be careful, there is a snake nearby.’ Or sometimes I would just get a check in my spirit and I just knew a snake was nearby.

He did the same thing with the humans I encountered. Sometimes the very day I would meet someone, I would have a dream about them. God would show me in the visions of the night, what was going on in their hearts and if I could trust them. Every time He warned me about someone, it would certainly come to pass. Through these warnings, I learnt to be on guard with some people. I am still kind and caring towards them, but I am guarded.

The same thing happened when I became involved with yoga. I wanted to lose weight and did not know about the evil attached to this exercise. I also didn’t listen to the gentle nudging of the Holy Spirit while doing yoga. I knew something was wrong but I did not listen. Then, months later, the Holy Spirit spoke to me so clearly one day and said, ‘You need deliverance.’ I immediately asked David to do deliverance on me. True to His word, upon deliverance being done, I started moving like a snake! The Strongman of Deception had gained entry into my body and its snake, yoga, had wrapped itself around my spine. Now take note, I was filled with the Holy Spirit and yet I became occupied by a demon because I opened the door to it.



Therefore, you must understand that the Holy Spirit dwells in your spirit. Your soul is the part of you that makes up your mind, will and emotions. This is the part of you where there is a battle! You must conform your mind, will and emotions to the image of Christ, through what the Bible calls the sanctification process. This is the process that purifies the soul to make it holy and get rid of all the evil strongholds and influences, so that you start acting, thinking and speaking like Christ. The Holy Spirit transforms the heart to be like Christ by writing the laws of Christ upon your heart. The body is the part that can be occupied by demons. When the soul allows something like Deception to deceive it, it gives legal right for demonic entities to take occupation in your physical body. Therefore, the battle is over the soul. Demons influence the mind, will and emotions from the body, and the Holy Spirit desires to lead from the spirit. Therefore, you can have the Holy Spirit and still be occupied by demons. It was the Holy Spirit that told me that day, that I need deliverance! God made me aware of the snake inside of me. Had I not listened to the Holy Spirit, I believe He would have eventually departed from me. He will only remain with you for so long if you keep giving demons right to occupy you. The Holy Spirit desires to be your only Occupant! He will not share you with evil.

The Holy Spirit guides my life to such an extent, that He tells me where to live, what to do with my money, what car to buy, even what to cook and wear! Yes, God cooks with me sometimes. And He also cares about what I wear. He is my constant companion and friend, He is my Father and caretaker, He is my guide and my wisdom, He is my provider and my rock. He is everything I need.

When I disobey Him, I get hurt. As long as what I walk with Him daily, I am safe and no harm shall ever come near me. We all need to walk with Him in this way! It is the only way to be safe from Deception or harm. Many people speak **Psalm 91** over themselves daily but do not realise there is a condition attached to it, to enjoy the blessings promised in it. You have to ABIDE under the shadow of the Almighty. When you follow the shadow of someone, you are following their footsteps. You go where they go and you do what they do. To abide under the shadow of the Almighty is to follow Him in all His ways. In order to dwell in His shelter, we must abide in His shadow, THEN we will say He is our refuge and our fortress and He will protect us and cover us wherever we go.

When I lived on a farm for a while, Father brought me sheep. It was the first time in my life that I had to learn to care for sheep. They are very jittery and stubborn. You need to have a lot of patience with them and show them that they can trust you. After weeks of caring for them and winning their trust, they came to know me. With such amazement I realised they would only come when they heard my voice! I would call them in from the pasture each day and as soon as they heard my voice, they would come running. The one sheep would come right up to me and let me scratch her ears for her. I loved it! If anyone else tried to call them, they would simply look up and then carry-on grazing, completely ignoring them. They would only follow their master's voice!

In the same way, I have kept myself from following voices that are not from God. I have only allowed a handful of pastors to pour into my life and those teachers were confirmed by Father in a dream. I won't listen to anyone else's teachings. People will send me teachings or tell me about this pastor or that prophet and most of the time, I have never even heard of them. I also refuse to watch those teachings and some take it as arrogance or having an unteachable spirit. I do not need to explain myself to these people who have completely misjudged me. I know the voice of my Father and I will not follow the voice of another.



Ask God to show you which pastors should pour into your life and which servants are allowed to direct you. Follow the Holy Spirit and you will not be deceived.

In our day, we are seeing such an increase of people following the prophets and seeking after prophecy. Everyone wants to hear what God wants to say to them. So when prophets come to visit our churches, we line up for that personal prophecy. Not realising that we may be opening ourselves up to the spirit of Deception. We also run after them online for that personal word. There are many social media groups that have a bunch of prophets on, where you can get a personal word given. These words are usually structured the same: God will do this for you, God has that blessing coming, God's will is that for your life etc. We grab hold of these prophecies and wait eagerly for God to fulfil His Word to us. Many times, it does not happen and the exact opposite happens. We are also led to believe that we have to sow into these prophets' ministries in order for the word to come to pass.

What Deception that we believe we need to pay God to do what He says He will do! That is again nowhere to be found in the Bible. I myself have seen this Deception on a world-renowned prophet's site. You ask for a word and a few weeks later this word comes that I immediately discerned as broadly generated and not from God, then right at the bottom of the word, they remind you of how vital it is to sow, so that God will give you even more prophecy.

It is like going to a fortune teller and paying them to tell you, your future. We are paying these so called prophets to give us fortune telling! You may as well go buy a deck of tarot cards and ask God to show you the future through them.

Yet when we look in the Bible, this was never what God intended prophecy for. Prophets were sent to warn, rebuke, correct and lead the people to repentance. Sometimes they would bring the blessing of God too but it wasn't their focus. Their focus was to keep the people on the paths of righteousness and bring those who had gone astray, back to God. And if the wicked would not listen, they also had the power to unleash the judgement of God, like Moses and Jeremiah.

Today we have turned it into a spectacle of fortune telling. And people are allowing these prophecies in, in their thousands. Believers are getting deceived worldwide! The spirit of divination is unleashed worldwide. When the prophets come, the churches are packed! These same people never sit at the feet of Jesus and never learn to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit themselves.

Personal prophecy should never be telling you something you do not know. The prophet should always come with confirmation. For example, a few weeks ago someone sent me this amazing prophecy. I did not ask for the prophecy and neither did God tell me that someone was going to prophecy to me. In the middle of writing this book, this prophecy comes that states that God was about to take me and my husband on a new path where we would walk with this world-renowned prophetess and travel with her for a few years. And God told this person that he must tell me, 'Rebeckah, it is not for you to teach, but for you to learn.'

First of all, God had never said anything like this to me or my husband. Secondly, I was in the middle of one of the most important works of my life, which includes teaching. Thirdly, what benefit would that have to my calling to go traveling around the world with this prophetess as no prophet can replace the work of the Holy Spirit to me. This person who gave the prophecy was also so excited and proceeded to congratulate us, because he just happens to idolise this woman.





I thought how strange, we would give our left arm to follow these people who are so well known, but we never learn to follow Christ with half as much passion. Instead, we use Jesus and think, well what are you going to do for me? So we run to these prophets and we seek after the blessing, but instead of the blessing, we receive Deception and with it comes the curse.

You see the Bible says that those who walk in righteousness shall be blessed. Those that follow the good way, will see the hand of God upon their lives.

**PSALM 84:11** For the Lord God is a sun and shield;  
The Lord will give grace and glory;  
No good *thing* will He withhold  
From those who walk uprightly.

The blessing always had conditions attached to it. Today we think Jesus shed His blood to give us free blessings. We can walk in wickedness and still be blessed because that's what Jesus did for us! We have gone astray from the Word of God and allowed Deception in! I do not care for famous prophets. Neither do I care to follow any prophet or apostle. Father called me as a prophet and years later as I matured, gave me the anointing of apostle, and yet all I really am, is a child of the Most High God! I serve my King because I love Him and I know His people need to know Him as I do. I have no desire to be famous or worshipped. God alone must be worshipped and God alone deserves the glory and praise.

I see so many schools of prophets and conferences to teach you to prophecy and the likes, going around. In these places the prophets are being taught how to prophecy, and what prophecy is from God and what is not. Most places teach that God never says anything negative. Think about that ... never anything negative. So we are training these people up to prophecy falsely from the get go. You must speak something positive. Therefore, you should not actually listen to the Holy Spirit, you must come up with some sort of blessing from your own deceived heart and tell the people that God says. 80% of the Bible is God saying some harsh things. But apparently, He doesn't talk like that anymore. He has changed ... apparently. So our measure, which is the Word of God, has now been removed, and it's an open field to indulge in. Whatever your heart believes, this is what God can say. Deception is the order of the day.

**1 KINGS 13:1 – 33** Unexpectedly, a man of God came from Judah to Bethel with the word of *Adonai* while Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn incense. <sup>2</sup> He cried out against the altar with the word of *Adonai* and said: "O altar, altar, thus says *Adonai*, behold, a son shall be born to the house of David, Josiah by name, and upon you will he sacrifice the priests of the high places who burn incense on you, and human bones will be burned upon you." <sup>3</sup> The same day he gave a sign, saying, "This is the sign that *Adonai* has spoken, the altar is about to be split apart and the fat ashes on it will be poured out."

<sup>4</sup> Now when the king heard the word of the man of God, which he proclaimed against the altar in Bethel, Jeroboam stretched out his hand from the altar saying: "Seize him!" But the hand which he stretched out against him withered—he could not even draw it back to himself. <sup>5</sup> The altar also was split apart and the fat ashes poured out from the altar, just as was the sign that the man of God gave with the word of *Adonai*.



<sup>6</sup> So the king responded by saying to the man of God: “Please seek the face of *Adonai* your God, and pray for me, so my hand may be restored to me!” So the man of God sought the face of *Adonai* and the king’s hand was restored to him, becoming as it was before.

<sup>7</sup> Then the king said to the man of God: “Come home with me and have something to eat, and then, I will give you a reward.”

<sup>8</sup> But the man of God said to the king: “Even if you give me half your house, I will not go with you nor will I eat bread or drink water in this place. <sup>9</sup> For so I was charged by the word of *Adonai*, saying, ‘You are to eat no bread, nor drink water, nor return by the way by which you came.’” <sup>10</sup> So he took another road and did not return by the way he had come to Bethel.

<sup>11</sup> Now one old prophet was living in Bethel. His son came and told him all the deeds that the man of God had done that day in Bethel and all the words that he had spoken to the king they related to their father. <sup>12</sup> Then their father asked them: “Which way did he go?” For his sons had seen which way the man of God that came from Judah went.

<sup>13</sup> Then he said to his sons, “Saddle the donkey for me!” So they saddled the donkey for him and he rode away on it. <sup>14</sup> Then he went after the man of God and found him sitting under an oak tree. He said to him, “Are you the man of God who came from Judah?”

“I am,” he said.

<sup>15</sup> “Come home with me,” he said to him, “and eat bread!”

<sup>16</sup> But he said: “I cannot return with you nor go with you, nor will I eat bread or drink water with you in this place. <sup>17</sup> For it was said to me by the word of *Adonai*: You shall eat no bread nor drink water there, nor should you return back by the way by which you came.”

<sup>18</sup> So he said to him: “I also am a prophet like you. An angel spoke to me with the word of *Adonai* saying, ‘Bring him back with you to your house that he may eat bread and drink water.’” (He lied to him). <sup>19</sup> So he went back with him and ate bread in his house and drank water.

<sup>20</sup> Now while they were sitting at the table, the word of *Adonai* came to the prophet who had brought him back, <sup>21</sup> and he cried to the man of God that came from Judah saying, “Thus says *Adonai*: Because you rebelled against the word of *Adonai*, and did not keep the commandment which *Adonai* your God commanded you, <sup>22</sup> but turned back, ate bread and drank water in the place of which He said to you, ‘Eat no bread and drink no water,’ your carcass will not enter the tomb of your fathers.”

<sup>23</sup> So after he had eaten bread and after he had drunk, he saddled the donkey for him, for the prophet he had brought back. <sup>24</sup> But when he was gone, a lion met him along the way and killed him. So his carcass was thrown on the road with both the donkey and the lion standing beside the carcass. <sup>25</sup> Then, men passed by and saw the carcass thrown on the road with the lion standing by the carcass. So they came and told it in the town where the old prophet lived. <sup>26</sup> Now when the prophet who had brought him back from the road heard it, he said: “It is the man of God who defied the word of *Adonai*; therefore *Adonai* gave him to the lion which mauled him and killed him, according to the word *Adonai* spoke to him.”

<sup>27</sup> Then he spoke to his sons saying: “Saddle the donkey for me!” So they saddled it. <sup>28</sup> Then he went and found his carcass lying on the road, with the donkey and the lion standing by the carcass.



The lion had not eaten the carcass nor mauled the donkey. <sup>29</sup> Then the prophet picked up the carcass of the man of God, he laid it on the donkey and brought it back to the town of the old prophet to mourn and to bury him. <sup>30</sup> He laid his carcass in his own tomb and they mourned over him saying, "Oy, my brother!" <sup>31</sup> After burying him, he said to his sons, "When I die, bury me in the tomb where the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones. <sup>32</sup> For the message he declared by the word of *Adonai* against the altar in Bethel, and against all the shrines of the high places which are in the towns of Samaria, will surely come to pass."

<sup>33</sup> Even after this, Jeroboam did not turn back from his evil way, but once again, he appointed priests for the high places from among all ranks of the people. Whoever wanted to be a priest, he consecrated him for the high places. <sup>34</sup> So this matter became sin against the house of Jeroboam, in the end, wiping it out and destroying it from the face of the earth.

This is a story the Holy Spirit led me to very early in my walk with Him. We see here what happens to a prophet that listens to another prophet, even though he was a genuine prophet. God had spoken to His prophet and told him not to do something. He goes and performs great miracles before the king. Then another prophet is sent to deceive this prophet. You see, God was testing the heart of His prophet. Will he really obey Me? Does his heart belong to Me and Me alone?

So the prophet tempts him to disobey God and he falls for it. That results in a lion eating him. We look at this story and feel pity for the prophet and maybe even question God a little here. Understand, everything was written for our example and what not to do. Being a prophet means you speak on behalf of God. We see this example today with presidents.

They have representatives to the public. This person is employed to speak on behalf of the president. They share with the public, exactly what the president desires and has instructed them to say.

Imagine what will happen if this person suddenly starts sharing things out of their own hearts? They dismiss what the president said and say whatever they think is right. Well it is obvious, this would mean you are fired. Now we think God enjoys us speaking for Him and doing our own thing!

In this story the lion represents the enemy. Prophets who listen to the voice of other prophets and not God's voice, opens the door to the enemy to devour them. Deception enters and they don't even realise they are being destroyed. This prophet was tempted by food. He had been on a long journey. He was probably hungry and tired. In the same way Jesus was hungry and tired in the desert when satan tempted Him. Yet Jesus never strayed from the Word of God. This prophet did and the end result was disastrous.

I have ministered to many people who have callings on their lives. Never have I felt led to teach them how to prophecy and what prophecy is God and what is not. Instead, I know I need to teach them to obey the voice of the Holy Spirit, whatever He says to them. I don't dictate what He will say because each person has a different calling and each person must walk out their calling that was given by the Holy Spirit, with the Holy Spirit! If you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and you know the Word of Truth, you are in good hands, in fact there are no better hands in existence. I never try to be God to people! He is God and I trust Him to lead His people because that is what He does. He is more than capable of teaching the very people He has called and are going to speak on His behalf! If you want to be the voice for Almighty God on this earth, you better learn to listen to Him speak, and not the voice of man.





These prophetic schools and classes will always use the example of Elijah and Elisha and the company of prophets that followed them to justify their prophetic schools. Now we know from the story of Elijah, that he had a mighty battle with the false prophets and Jezebel and Ahab. He won the battle but after Jezebel found out that he had killed all her prophets, she sent word that she was now going to kill him. This sent so much fear into Elijah that he literally ran hundreds of miles away to go hide in a cave.

**1 KINGS 19:1 – 16** Then Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup> Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah saying, “So let the gods do to me and worse if by this time tomorrow I don’t make your life like the life of one of them.” <sup>3</sup> Frightened, he got up and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, he left his servant there. <sup>4</sup> But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom bush. He prayed that he might die. “It’s too much!” he said. “Now, *Adonai*, take my life! For I’m no better than my fathers.”

<sup>5</sup> Then he lay down and slept under the broom bush. Then behold, an angel touched him, and said to him, “Get up, and eat.” <sup>6</sup> So he looked, and to his surprise, there by his head was a cake baked on the hot stones and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup> Then the angel of *Adonai* came again a second time, touched him and said. “Get up and eat, because the journey is too much for you.” <sup>8</sup> So he arose and ate and drank, and in the strength of that meal forty days and forty nights went to Horeb, the mountain of God.

<sup>9</sup> When he arrived there at the cave, he spent the night there. Then behold, the word of *Adonai* came to him, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>10</sup> “I have been very zealous for *Adonai-Tzva’ot*,” he said, “for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars and slain Your prophets with the sword—and I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it!”

<sup>11</sup> Then He said, “Come out and stand on the mount before *Adonai*.” Behold, *Adonai* was passing by—a great and mighty wind was tearing at the mountains and shattering cliffs before *Adonai*. But *Adonai* was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but *Adonai* was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> After the earthquake a fire, but *Adonai* was not in the fire. After the fire there was a soft whisper of a voice. <sup>13</sup> As soon as Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle, went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then all of a sudden, a voice addressed him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>14</sup> “I have been very zealous for *Adonai-Tzva’ot*,” he said, “for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and slain Your prophets with the sword—and I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life!”

<sup>15</sup> Then *Adonai* said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus, and when you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram, <sup>16</sup> and anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-Meholah as prophet in your place.

Now Elijah had just slain the false prophets (Deception) and proven that God alone is God and yet here he hears the false prophecy sworn by false gods and he runs! As I pointed out before, Jezebel represents Deception. After a mighty victory, as in our first story with the prophet and the king, the spirit of Deception comes to tempt Elijah.



He falls for the temptation because he listens to the voice of the enemy and not the voice of God. God in His mercy sends an angel to care for him but along the way, He questions him. What are you doing here Elijah? In other words, I did not send you here. You did not listen to My voice but the voice of the enemy. Still this does not get Elijah's attention and he continues to complain to the Lord that things are too much for him. At this point Deception has overwhelmed him so much that he even believes he alone is left to serve God in Israel.

We see how God does something wonderful at the cave to get Elijah's attention. He shows him again, the voice of the Holy Spirit!

The gentle whisper that comes from the voice of the Holy Spirit. God is reminding Elijah the power that is in the voice of the Almighty God even when it is just a whisper. Again He asks, what are you doing here Elijah? I am sure He was hoping the prophet would realise his foolishness in listening to the voice of the enemy and not to His voice. Still Elijah continued to complain and claim to be the only servant left and now they wanted to kill him. Elijah was completely blinded to the deceit. After trying to get Elijah's attention numerous times, God then decides to give his calling to another. And then points out the deceit to Elijah...

**1 KINGS 19:18** Yet I have preserved seven thousand in Israel whose knees have not bowed to Baal and whose mouth has not kissed him.

Elijah was not alone. There was seven thousand more in Israel. Unfortunately, the spirit of Deceit caused the mightiest prophet in the Old Testament to not complete what he was called to do! This should be a warning to other prophets that we can get taken out early, if we fall for Deception and do not obey the voice of the Holy Spirit alone. But God had plans for Israel, so someone had to take his place. God will replace you if you fall for Deception and do not repent and turn from it!

Then we see Elisha come on the scene and he is trained by Elijah before Elijah departs. Now there is a company of prophets that suddenly arrive on the scene. Remember before the showdown at Carmel, Elijah walked alone with only a servant sometimes. But now there is this company of prophets that follow them and live with them. I believe it was a common thing in those days that prophets lived together, had fellowship together and even had someone lead them, like Elijah did and then Elisha. In the same way the priestly order was set up. The Levites and Aaron's descendants lived in the same community and worked together and they had their head, the high priest to rule over them. But this does not mean that Elijah or Elisha taught them how to prophecy. Neither does it mean they were in some sort of school. A company of prophets means just that, a group of prophets. It is not pointing to some sort of school.

There is nothing wrong with prophets gathering or even walking together in their service to the Lord, and even growing together in their understanding of their callings. Sometimes God might even send a young prophet to serve in another prophets' ministry until they mature enough to walk on their own. But we should never be taught what is acceptable to prophecy and how God speaks or not. Jesus said My sheep will hear My voice and another's they will not follow! If even the sheep can hear the voice of the Shepherd, how much more can those that speak on His behalf!

Instead of being told what to prophecy and what not, the Scriptures tell us to prophecy and let another prophet test the prophecy.



**1 CORINTHIANS 14:29 – 33** Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others evaluate. <sup>30</sup> But if something is revealed to another sitting nearby, let the first one become silent. <sup>31</sup> For you can all prophesy one by one, so all may learn and be encouraged. <sup>32</sup> The spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets, <sup>33</sup> for God is not a God of confusion, but *shalom*.

We are told to prophecy and if prophesying in this setting of a church or community with other prophets, then the prophets can learn from one another's prophecies and evaluate them or test them. It is wonderful to gather with other true prophets of God and share among yourselves everything that God has revealed to each one individually. This brings such encouragement as you see how the Holy Spirit has spoken similar things to each of us. This is what being encouraged is referring to. As prophecies are shared, you also learn a few things in listening to others and how God has taught them. It is a beautiful thing among prophets. It is not some sort of school. God is our Teacher and we must listen to His voice alone.

The Word of God is clear in teaching us to obey His voice and not fall for the voice of Deception that usually comes through the voice of a person and even possibly a true prophet. The Strongman of Deception aims to take down the true prophets of God. He tempts them to fall for his snares because he knows, once they do, it is over for them. You cannot be a mouthpiece for God and a mouthpiece for satan. Therefore, a prophet's biggest enemy is Deception. Deception hates the prophets for one reason, they speak the Word of God! We have learnt that Deception brings you into bondage by deceiving you into believing something contrary to the Word of God. As he tempted Eve to disbelieve God and be deceived. Therefore, Deception will do whatever he can to distort the Truth and bring the lie. Prophets speak the Word of God and that word is Truth. Deception hates the Truth and will attempt to destroy it or anyone who speaks it.

God in His great mercy will open the prophets' eyes to the Deception and lead them to repentance. Should they repent, they will be restored to speak for Him again. Yes, prophets can make mistakes and even fall and still find grace from Father.

It is when they refuse to repent or continue to believe the lie, no matter how many times God shows them the lie, that their calling will come to an end and given to another.

I myself have had to learn this lesson the hard way. I released a prophetic vision over my nation a few years ago. It was one of the most gripping visions I had ever had. I faithfully released it with its interpretation. Being a new prophet though, I had a few hard lessons to learn. Because the vision was so severe in its destruction, I feared for peoples' lives, instead of trusting God with the end result.

As time went by, I continually tried to look for signs of the prophecy nearing its time of fulfilment. Then, just over a year after releasing the prophecy, I found a comment on my social media page where someone said God was pointing to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January as a possible fulfilment. This immediately had my attention. I pondered what the man had said to me and later that day, someone sent me a prophetic word from another person, also pointing to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. Now I became nervous. I wondered if God was giving me the sign I was waiting for, to warn the people that the prophecy was about to come to pass. Then, later that day, another person contacted me and again the date was confirmed. So, I went and prayed. I sought the Lord in my anxiousness to tell me if the date was right and the prophecy was about to come to pass. I hear nothing.





All I received was a vision of a number and it was not 1. I pondered all the events and then in fear for people's lives, I decided to trust the date that had crossed my path three times and release a warning that the prophecy might come to pass on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January. My warning led to panic among the people and many fled their holiday destinations because of it.

The day came, and the day went, with no fulfilment. I was slaughtered after that, understandably. People called me a false prophet all over the nation. Oh I most certainly deserved it. I had not received a word from the Lord but instead acted out of fear and words spoken by other people who I did not even know! I made the biggest mistake of my walk with God. The next day, I sat down with my husband and we discussed the situation. I never want to do anything to harm the Kingdom of God and I had clearly done harm. I thought of Scripture and felt that my mistake was so big that I had to bow out of ministry. David and I agreed that I could no longer serve God as a prophet. As I made my decision, my phone suddenly rang. It was another prophet whom I knew and trusted.

Without him knowing what was going on in that very moment in my lounge, he spoke the following words to me, 'Rebeckah, we all make mistakes. The point is to learn from them and grow. Do not quit.'

I burst into tears because I knew God had sent His servant at just the right time, with just the right words and thrown me a life line. I thanked the Lord for His mercy and faced the onslaught I had caused. It was humiliating and yet I had to endure it. I made the mistake. I had to clean up my mess. Never again would I listen to the voice of another or say anything unless God told me to say it. Lesson learnt.

To this day, years later, I am still paying the price for that mistake. People still attack me and dismiss prophetic words from me because of one mistake. Since then, I have released major prophetic words over the nation that have come to pass, year upon year. It doesn't matter how many prophecies I now release that are accurate, certain people will always remember the mistake I made. This is the destruction that Deception can bring upon a ministry if you allow it.

I realize we all do this to some extent. We look for signs from God all around us and set ourselves up for Deception to swoop right in and deceive us. I have heard people testify of praying to God and asking Him for a husband or wife, then the next week someone walks into their life, and they believe it is a sign of their prayer being answered. They don't pray and hear from the Holy Spirit. They simply look for signs. Years later after a broken marriage and abuse, they realise it was never God. Some blame God for bringing the wrong partner.

This is nothing new, people were looking for signs even in the time of Jesus.

**MATTHEW 8:38 – 42** Then some of the *Torah* scholars and Pharisees answered Him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."

<sup>39</sup> But *Yeshua* replied to them, "An evil and adulterous generation clamours for a sign, yet no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. <sup>40</sup> For just as Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights, so the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights. <sup>41</sup> The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah. And behold, something greater than Jonah is here. <sup>42</sup> The Queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon. And behold, something greater than Solomon is here.



Jesus is teaching these people and suddenly they interrupt Him to ask Him for a sign that He is truly from God. He rebukes them for it and tells them that only wicked people seek after signs. He then tells them that the only sign would be the same as the prophet Jonah who was in the belly of the fish for three days. So Jesus would be buried for three days and rise again. Now Nineveh repented when Jonah spoke the word of God. But here the Son of God was declaring the Word of God and they would not repent but instead sought for signs.

How many times do we seek after signs to obey the voice of God? When we accepted Jesus as our Saviour, got baptised into His death, came out of the water as a sign of joining Him in His resurrection, we declared that we now walk this earth in surrender to Him, abiding in Him and having Him abide within us. We have now become one when we are filled by His Spirit in the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, as He lived in obedience to His Father, so we now live in obedience to Him. That was our sign.

We don't need any more signs to obey the Scriptures or to obey the voice of the Holy Spirit. We know Truth and we walk in Truth.

Yes, God will sometimes confirm His words to us to encourage us and strengthen us. He may speak something to you and as the day continues, you hear a confirmation through something someone says, or something you read somewhere and so on. But this must never become our measure of whether something is from God or not. Look at what happened to me. Signs can be from the enemy too.

For example, you pray and seek the Lord for a husband. The next week this man crosses your path and you believe it is your sign. It must be God. Yet you did not hear God say it is and neither did you obey Scripture in finding a husband. You did not test the fruit of this man and neither did you ensure that he is the man that will help you grow closer to Christ. You just followed a sign. Do you see the great room for Deception because we do not obey the Scriptures and neither do we wait on the Lord to speak in whatever way He desires to speak? One thing I know about God, is that when He desires to speak, He speaks. Nothing can stop Him from speaking. He uses the same way to communicate with us today as He did in the Scriptures.

We either hear His soft whisper in our spirits, or some even hear His audible voice, or He speaks to us in dreams and visions, or He speaks through His Word. He doesn't speak to us through signs although He can use these tools to confirm things He has already spoken. But our measure is always the Word of God, never signs. Else we leave room for Deception.

One day God sent me back to the mountain where I would regularly pray and spend time in a cave with Him. On this particular day, God made covenant with me. A covenant means that God has promised to do something in your life that is not based upon your actions or obedience to bring it to pass. It is different than prophecy. Prophecy usually comes with a 'if you obey'. No prophetic word spoken over your life will come to pass either if you do not pursue it in faith. For example, if you sit on your couch in front of your television every night, don't expect your destiny to be fulfilled. You actually have to do your part. But a covenant is different. A covenant is God declaring what He will do regardless of what you do.

God made a covenant with me that day that He would plant me firmly into the ground and I would not be moved. Yes, for years I had no idea what that meant!



Only after years went by, could I look back and see that it didn't matter how bad the storm was, as I explained before, it didn't matter what I faced, nothing moved me from the path that God had placed me on. I was firmly planted in Him and nothing could hinder me. Then as He spoke His covenant, without me asking, He said He would give me a sign to confirm the covenant. He told me to look to the south.

Now I had no idea where north or south was! I looked around on the beach to see if I could see anything. Nothing. I looked and looked until I felt like an idiot. Eventually I left in despair because I had seen nothing. So did I hear correctly?!

I drove home and as I got to my gate and climbed out the car to open it, it started to rain softly. This made me look up and to my amazement I saw this massive rainbow over my house! I quickly drove the car in and rushed to David to get his compass out. I asked him to tell me in what direction this rainbow was in, without telling him what this was about. To my astonishment, it was in the south. God confirmed the covenant He had made, in His way and in a way that lines up with Scripture. Noah also received a rainbow when God confirmed His covenant with mankind. The rainbow was a sign of the promise of God. These types of confirmations became something God would do for me whenever there was a major promise or covenant that would take place between us. He used hailstorms, more rainbows, even full double rainbows and sometimes words from other prophets would confirm what God had said to me.

These confirmations have only been a handful over the span of years. It only comes for the very big things that need confirmation. Smaller confirmations will come in a conversation or a word suddenly spoken on television, or something you read or so on. These are wonderful too but it is not something I seek out. I just take note. I am never led by it though. I am led by the Holy Spirit. And I don't ask Him to confirm everything He says to me, I just obey Him. I do not question Him and I most certainly do not test Him by constantly asking for confirmations. His voice is enough. His Word is enough. I trust Him.

Another example of this is, one morning I was in prayer and I surrendered my day to the Holy Spirit. What did He want me to do today? I immediately had this vision. Very fleeting. I saw a blue swallow. I knew He wanted me to go where the blue swallow is. I started google and searched for a name of a place where there was a blue swallow involved. Soon, I found a place with a nature reserve that had the name blue swallow in it. I kept the matter in my heart and asked God to show me who He was sending me to in a dream that night. That night I had a dream of a receptionist. So the next morning I left to the place with only the name of the place and a receptionist to guide me. I arrived and went to reception. At this point there were two women sitting at the reception. I explained to them that God had sent me there to pray for someone at the reception. They both looked shocked but both were willing for me to pray for them. I prayed for one at a time in an office space. As I finished praying for both and not feeling satisfied that I had found the right person, I came out the office only to find a new woman now standing at the reception. I knew she was the one. I waited while the other two explained my story and she hesitantly let me pray for her too.

In the office I explained how God had sent me and I knew He had sent me specifically for her. At this point she broke down in sobs and exclaimed that she had recently lost someone to death in her family. It has brought such destruction to her heart and her relationship with God. She then explained how she had cried out to Jesus the week before and asked Him to send someone on her path to just show her again that He is near. He sent me.





I finished up with her after prayer and as I left, I will never forget the look on this woman's face. She was so floored at what had just happened she literally thought I must be an angel. I could see it on her face! I just left gracefully having done what I was sent for, also floored at the goodness of our God. I became the woman's lifeline. All I had to do was obey. Even if it seemed foolish.

Signs will come in the most magnificent ways that only God could have orchestrated but we must never live a life always pursuing signs. I didn't need a sign to obey God. I just obeyed Him and look at the fruit of that obedience! Someone thought I was an angel!





## **TESTIMONY**

After salvation, I shared with you how we packed up and followed God in faith to a new province. We moved to a small town called Sedgefield. In this town we soon met a man who just happened to be the pastor of a local church. He invited us to join his congregation and I was very excited to join, as I had never been a part of a church and I wanted to learn more about God.

The night before we were meant to go to this church, David and I landed up having a huge argument. In the heat of the moment, David slammed his fist into a brick wall. He injured his hand so badly that it swelled up and he could not move his fingers. So we landed up not going to church because he would not be able to shake anyone's hand. The following Sunday, I woke up with such a severe pain in my neck that I could not move my body. David had to get me a pain patch and a neck brace because I could not move my neck without extreme pain shooting down my spine. So again, we did not go to church.

The following Sunday, David woke up with a severe toothache. There are no dentists available on a Sunday so again, we did not go to church. After this happened three times in a row, I realised there was this pattern developing and the devil was trying to stop us from going to church. I declared in anger, 'I don't care what happens next Sunday, we WILL go to church!' Nothing happened the next Sunday and we went to church.

In this church I met the Holy Spirit. I started encountering His Presence in a tangible way every Sunday. As we would worship together as a church, my body would start trembling and shaking and my ears would feel like they were on fire! No one had ever told me that the Holy Spirit did such things, it just happened to me. I knew it was God because I had already encountered Him in my garden in the same way. I would turn to my husband and tell him that my ears were burning and he would respond in shock, 'Your ears are extremely red!' It was glorious encounters! I would be filled with the joy of the Lord and want to shout and dance and laugh in His beautiful Presence.

I quickly learned that the key to His Presence was worship. A heart that worshipped Him fully, drew His encounter. Therefore, I started worshipping Him in my lounge each day and soon I was encountering the Holy Spirit each day! I was sold out to God! I read my bible each moment of each day and I even took my bible with to the beach and the store. I was eating every Word of God like it was my food.

Every day I could not start my day without worshipping God and reading His Word. My heart would burn each time I opened the Bible and love soon overcame my life. I noticed I had so much love for people. Even strangers I had just met. And all I wanted to do was share the Gospel with everyone and anyone. I wanted to tell people about Jesus and what He had done in my life. That drove me to the streets and to the townships and even though I was a woman alone, I had no fear. I was simply burning for Christ! The fruit of the Holy Spirit was evident in my life and I even hated sin suddenly. Anything that grieved God, grieved me. I overcame sin with ease and burned with a fiery passion for Jesus Christ.

This carried on for about three months. At this point, I had noticed that many times I would just randomly open the Bible and feel like God was speaking to me directly. This was confirmed through events that would take place after receiving some Scripture. I started journaling these Scriptures and loved that God could even help me open my Bible on just the right place at just the right time. At this point, I could not hear His voice yet. I also started receiving a lot of dreams that I also faithfully journaled.



Then, one afternoon I was sitting with the Bible and when I opened it, it fell on Jeremiah chapter 1. As I read this passage, it felt like God was speaking directly to me. Now I had never even heard of prophets at this point and had no idea that prophets still existed today. I shrugged it off and closed the Bible. I opened it again randomly. Again, it fell on Jeremiah 1. I closed it again and again as I opened it, it fell on Jeremiah 1. Now I started getting angry. I thought the enemy was playing tricks on my mind. I proceeded to open that Bible a total of eight times. Every time, it fell on **Jeremiah 1**.

Eventually I put the Bible down, disturbed by what had just happened. I decided to put it out of my thoughts and shrug it off as the devil trying to play tricks on me. By the time I went to bed that night, I was still a little disturbed but I kept the matter in my mind and did not tell anyone about it. The next morning, I got the kids ready for school and started my washing. I then proceeded to go hang up my washing. My neighbour, Jude, came and had a chat with me as I was hanging up my washing. While we were talking, her husband came over holding something in his hand.

He looked at her and said, 'Jude, what do you see?' She looked at his hand as he held it out and opened up his hand to reveal the surprise. As she saw it, she exclaimed, 'Oh, that is the branch of an almond tree!'

**JEREMIAH 1:4 – 12** The word of *Adonai* came to me, saying:

<sup>5</sup> "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you,  
and before you were born, I set you apart—  
I appointed you prophet to the nations."

<sup>6</sup> Then I said, "Alas, *Adonai Elohim*!  
Look, I don't know how to speak!  
For I'm still a boy!"

<sup>7</sup> But *Adonai* answered me,  
"Do not say 'I'm only a boy!'  
For to everyone I send you, you will go,  
and all I command you, you will speak.

<sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them!  
For I am with you to deliver you."

It is a declaration of *Adonai*.

<sup>9</sup> Then *Adonai* stretched out His hand and touched my mouth and *Adonai* said to me,

"Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup> See, today I have appointed you over nations and over kingdoms:  
to uproot and to tear down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant."

<sup>11</sup> Moreover, the word of *Adonai* came to me, saying, "**What do you see, Jeremiah?**"

**I answered, "I see an almond branch."**

<sup>12</sup> Then *Adonai* said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching over My word to perform it."





As the words left her mouth, the Holy Spirit fell on me right there in front of them! My whole body started shaking under the Presence of God and I am sure my face turned completely white. I dropped my washing basket and turned and ran to David.

It took a few moments of shock and shrieks and words that made no sense before I could calm down to tell David what had just happened. That was the day I was called. That was also the day the trials began.

I went to my pastor who I had trusted completely up to this point and told him what had happened to me. I was shocked at his response. He shrugged it off as nonsense and told me there was no such thing as prophets anymore.

I left feeling greatly discouraged as I knew something amazing had happened to me. I went to the only place I knew I could find truth... The Scriptures. As I studied the New Testament, I found so many Scriptures that still spoke about prophets. In **Ephesians 4** we are told that Jesus is the One that gifts His people with the fivefold callings. I realised my pastor, who I loved and trusted with all my heart, was wrong.

Yet he had been a pastor for forty years and I had just been saved a few months! You see the Word of God, guarded me from Deception. Had I listened to the lie that was coming from the pastor's mouth, I would have entered into lifelong Deception regarding doctrines of the church. I would have listened to the voice of man instead of learning to listen to the voice of Jesus.

This was my first encounter with the Deception in the church. I started checking everything I was learning in the church with Scripture. And the more I studied, the more I realised the Pastor was not teaching 100% truth. It was a bit of truth mixed with a bit of head knowledge, mixed with some Deception. The fruit soon became very evident. My eyes opened to see that I was the only one encountering the Holy Spirit during worship. Other people did not have the same love in their hearts for Jesus, nor for people. I soon realised that if you did not remain in line with their beliefs, you would get cast out and without a second thought. It was all a show. It was fake. It was something they did on a Sunday and then went back home to live their normal lives. They did not know the Holy Spirit.

On some Sundays the pastor would ask the congregation to line up in front so that he could pray and lay hands on them. One by one as he touched them, they would fall to the ground. Yet many times, David and I would go for prayer as we loved prayer, yet we would not fall. I started thinking there was something wrong with us. The pastor would even get frustrated and try push us down. But I knew what it felt like when God truly overcame my body and not once did I feel like I was to fall to the ground.

These things started plaguing me and I was desperately seeking some help to understand what was from God and what was not. Then, one week after I was called, I lay down to have an afternoon nap. As my head hit the pillow, I heard a voice speak to me and say, 'Write down what you hear.' I could feel the presence of Jesus had just entered my room. I quickly sat up and started writing everything down. When the word was completed, He told me to just open my Bible. I obeyed and opened the Bible. My eyes fell on a verse that confirmed the prophetic word He had just given me! In a moment, His Presence left and I was shocked at what just happened.

This was my first prophetic word. The word was for the church I was in. The word said that Jesus had sent me to that church to teach them His Heart.



It also said that they came to church for no reason as they did not obey anything they learnt in church every Sunday and did not take to heart the words the pastor spoke each time. It was a gentle correction and direction. When I finally delivered the message to the church, I could have heard a pin drop in the silence that day. It was hard for me. I loved these people and now I had to suddenly humiliate myself in front of them.

Then I was sent to the head elder's house. Again, I was rejected and humiliated. Three months of bliss had come to a painful halt and suddenly the town looked at me like I was mad. At the shop, people would quickly turn their back when they saw me. Others would just stare in disgust. Youth pastors would tell my husband that I took this faith thing too far. They still enjoyed their braai's and drinks on weekends while I spent time in the Scriptures. All I could think or talk about was God. Even my husband turned on me and believed them.

I had the most terrible year after that. My faith would dwindle and I would doubt if I was really called as a prophet. I struggled to hear anything and I did not receive another prophetic word for months.

We then joined another church and they actually had a prophet! I was so excited as I really wanted to learn. I was desperate for someone to take me under their wing and show me the ropes. So I started sharing things with the pastor and maybe too much in my zeal to grow. I thought he would shepherd me and guide me on the right paths. Instead, without me knowing it at this point, he was talking to others about me behind my back. Yet in front of me he pretended to be eager to listen and care about my revelations.

I then made an appointment with the prophet and his wife. I was quickly told that his wife was also a prophet. Like a little child, I eagerly asked him many questions that night. How do you hear God? Also, at this point I had not broken my smoking addiction. I felt guilty for it many times, so I asked the prophet, how will I stop smoking? He had also been a smoker so he gave me some advice. I left feeling so happy that I had finally found someone who I could learn from!

The following Sunday, I was asked by the pastor's wife, to come to a meeting one night at their home. I was not told what it was about and neither was any sign given that I was in trouble. I noticed though; the Pastor was ignoring me. Deep inside I knew, something was not right. Before David and I left, I had been in prayer many times and God had given me many Scriptures. He made it clear that I was walking into a trap. And I most certainly did.

When I arrived with David, all of the elders of the church were there. They had not told me that anyone else was coming and neither did I know what this was about. There was a couple that seemed to lead the church as much as the pastor and his wife. The woman at times seemed to lead more than the pastor did. As we all gathered, she was the first to speak. This was the first words out of her mouth, 'Do you mind if I step on her toes now?', she asked the pastor. To which he responded, 'No, not at all.' This was the man that I looked up to, shared personal things with in my walk with God and trusted to shepherd me on the correct path. Instead of guiding me in love and praying over me and correcting me in private, he had arranged a spectacle in front of the whole leadership team to 'step on my toes.'

I was a very young believer at this point and I did not know that what they were doing was completely against the Word of God. The Scriptures declare that if there is a problem with someone, speak to them directly, then if they do not listen, bring another two witnesses and try again, and only if they still don't listen, bring it before the church.



The first two steps were ignored and my trust as a new believer was shattered that night. I wonder how many people endure the same things. Wounds and hurts by churches that bear no fruit.

Jesus told us to test the fruit. What is the fruit? If you think about fruit, it is something you would eat and it gives you refreshment and fills you up. It is something therefore, that nourishes your body. Now it is used symbolically to test if someone is truly walking with God or not as a leader.

Therefore, when you are under someone else's leadership, they must bear fruit in your lives. You must be nourished by their fruit. In other words, you must grow closer to Jesus with their help, you must grow deeper with your walk in the Spirit. When you look at the difference they have made in your spiritual life, you must be able to see the fruit that has nourished, set free, healed, delivered and deepened.

If you are not growing and you see nothing has changed in your life, and you are not getting closer to the Lord or there is no sign that God has worked through this person in your life, then it is quite simple; there is no fruit. Even worse is when you look at the fruit and all you see is damage. Instead of help you were hurt, you were neglected, or your walk with God is worse off than before. This is what we call false prophets and false teachers and false apostles. As you will learn in Chapter 8, God's Love creates. God's Love never destroys. If there is destruction, it is not from God.

If I test the fruit from the first church, I do see some fruit but I also see destruction. It is the lukewarm church. They might do some good but it accounts for nothing because they also do a lot of damage. They have two trees growing within them, one that is evil and one that is good. Therefore, Jesus tells us in Revelations, He will spit them out of His mouth and remove their lampstand unless they repent. Unfortunately, we have thousands of churches in this condition today. They get into this position when they begin to compromise. They start allowing in their own heart desires and listening to the hearts of man instead of God. When this happens, it allows the Strongman of Deception to take root. Soon they are walking in Deception and can no longer discern the way of God and the way of the enemy.

Then as the Strongman grows in the church, false doctrine starts creeping in and before they will ever realise it, they have lost sight of the true Gospel and given in to destructive heresies. People in their congregation are then overcome by this Strongman and Deception then runs rampant in the church. If by God's mercy and grace, your eyes have opened after being a part of a church like this, you must repent and receive deliverance from this Strongman and break its curse over you and remove its snake.

The second church was simply false. There was absolutely no fruit. They had no desire to nurture a new believer in love and neither did they care what they did to a soul that Jesus had died to save. Had I not been so secure in my relationship with Jesus, I would have walked away from God that day. This is great evil in the sight of God and Jesus even warned what would happen to those who hurt His little ones, those still feeding on milk.

**LUKE 17:1 – 2** Then *Yeshua* said to His disciples, "Stumbling blocks are bound to come, but woe to the one by whom they come! <sup>2</sup>It would be better for him to have a millstone put around his neck and to be hurled into the sea, than for him to cause one of these little ones to stumble.

It is not something to be taken lightly when leaders cause harm to believers who are newly saved. They are still learning to walk with Christ and grow into maturity. Notice we see the word stumbling block here again. A stumbling block is something that comes through some form of Deception as we learned earlier.





Therefore, these people are deceived by their leaders and that Deception, caused them to fall into sin. Jesus says it is better to be thrown into the sea, in other words die, than to cause harm to his new believers! Wow! That should be a big wake up call to the leaders of the church! What are you teaching new converts? Are you sure you are not deceiving them in any way? Are you sure you are leading them to know the pure Gospel, to know the Word off by heart and to walk by the Holy Spirit?

It is just like a mother with a new baby. Have you ever tried to harm a mother's new baby? Of course not! No one is that foolish! That loving mommy will quickly turn into a world heavy weight champion and destroy anyone in her path! Don't mess with a mommy's precious baby. In the same way, Jesus is saying, 'Don't mess with My babies!'

Then back with the meeting at the pastor's house, the woman began the meeting, and she proceeded to say that I had no right to prophecy to their church because I was not part of their church. (I had been coming to their church every Sunday for months).

Everything she said came from a heart of arrogance and pride, and no love, mercy or compassion was shown at any point. Then her husband took over from her. The first thing he brought up was that I smoked. I was floored that what I had told the so-called prophet in confidence for his assistance, was now being used as a weapon against me in front of everyone. Did they not know there was such a thing as the sanctification process that I had just began on with God? I want you to see how the finger was pointed to my sin, that I knew was wrong, and had come to them for help with, yet at the same time these mature leaders of a church were committing a much greater sin in the eyes of God because they had neglected the weightier matters of the law of Christ: love one another.

The meeting ended with me in tears walking out of the house and my husband following with the children. I was floored at their deceit and condemnation. I had trusted them. I just wanted to learn and grow in Christ. Instead, I was trampled and spat out like a piece of trash. How many people endure this kind of treatment at the hands of church leadership? How many thousands walk away from Christ because of false leaders who have no love, no compassion, no desire to grow the congregation in Christ but rather rule it? If you have endured this kind of treatment, I want to apologise to you from the depths of my heart and tell you today, it was NOT God! God did not desire that pain for you, neither did it come to His mind.

Jesus did not pay such a high price with His body that was tortured and His blood that was shed, to save you and then trample all over you. Jesus did it because He loved you! You are loved! Deception will lead people to do the most despicable things, wilfully sinning against God, and destroying the very people that Christ died for!

**EZEKIEL 34:1 – 16** The word of *Adonai* came to me saying: <sup>2</sup>“Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “Oy, shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should shepherds not take care of the sheep? <sup>3</sup>You eat the fat. You clothe yourself with the wool. You kill the fat ones. But you do not take care of the sheep. <sup>4</sup>You do not strengthen the weak, heal the sick, bind up the broken, bring back the stray or seek the lost. Instead, you have ruled over them with force and cruelty. <sup>5</sup>They were scattered for lack of a shepherd. They became food for all the beasts of the field as they were scattered. <sup>6</sup>My sheep wandered through all the mountains and on every high hill. Over all the face of the earth My sheep were scattered. No one searched. No one sought.”



<sup>7</sup>Therefore, shepherds, hear the word of *Adonai*: <sup>8</sup>“As I live”—it is a declaration of *Adonai*—“as surely as My sheep became prey and My sheep became food for all the beasts of the field, because there was no shepherd, nor did My shepherds search for My flock, but the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My sheep,” <sup>9</sup>therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of *Adonai*, <sup>10</sup>thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “Behold, I am against the shepherds and I will demand My flock from their hand. I will dismiss them from tending the flock. The shepherds will no longer feed themselves. I will rescue My sheep from their mouth, so they will not be food for them.”

<sup>11</sup>For thus says *Adonai Elohim*: “Here I am! I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his sheep on the day he is among his scattered flock, so I will seek out My sheep. I will rescue them out of all the places where they have been scattered, on a day of cloud and thick darkness.

<sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples. I will gather them from the countries. I will bring them back to their own land. I will shepherd them upon the mountains of Israel, by the streams and in all the habitable places of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will shepherd them in a good pasture—their grazing place will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down on good grazing ground. They will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I will tend My flock and make them lie down”—it is a declaration of *Adonai*.

<sup>16</sup>“I will seek the lost, bring back the stray, bind up the broken and strengthen the sick. But the fat and the strong I will destroy—I will tend them with justice.

Jesus told us clearly that He did not desire for even one sheep to be lost. If one sheep went astray, He would leave the ninety-nine to find the one. This is the heart of the true Shepherd. The Shepherd loves His sheep and gives His very life for the sheep. We see the Father have this same heart towards His sheep in the Old Testament. Yet today many thousands of sheep are lost because of shepherds who are rooted in Deception. Their own hearts have led them astray to follow the ways of the enemy and not the heart of God for His sheep. They desire money, power and the praises of man more than what they care for the sheep. This opens wide the door for Deception to enter and lead them far away from following the heart of God.

A few nights before I had the meeting with the pastor and his elders, I lay down to sleep. Suddenly I had this bright flash of a vision while I was still awake. I saw this massive tree and as I looked at the tree, I saw pieces of the bark falling away to reveal a bright green snake hidden in the tree. I had no idea what this vision meant and honestly, I only realise now. God was warning me that the Strongman of Deception was trying to have its way in my life. Then the meeting happened. After that I was plunged into a battle of faith. I entertained the words they spoke over me that night and allowed to a certain extent, their words to dominate my walk for years. Doubt in my walk with Jesus overcame me many times, I even doubted the calling on my life many times. I would be plunged into depression and unbelief, time and time again because of that night. I doubted the Holy Spirits work in my life and believed the Deception that came through the mouth of man. What I also did not know was at that very meeting, I was one week pregnant! Days after the meeting the Holy Spirit told me I was pregnant. This was the miracle baby He had promised me three months before. I told David what God had said and when we tested, it was positive. I realised though that these people had put tremendous strain on me very early in my pregnancy.



When I was exactly three months pregnant, I sunk into depression and had to go on medication to help. This was an extremely stressful time for me as I was concerned about the baby.

At six months though, as I shared previously, God sent His prophet to come heal me. Thank God for His true prophets!

Years later, an old prophet crossed my path and one day he phoned me up and said God had shown him two pastors in the very beginning of my walk with Him. God had placed these two pastors in my life to help me through the sanctification process. They had failed me terribly. I could sense the sadness of the Father's heart towards me because my beginning with Him had been so unnecessarily painful due to the neglect of His shepherds. The prophet then told me that God would recompense their deeds. What he didn't know, was that I had already seen God recompense their deeds.

It is no joke to treat what God sees as precious and valuable, as garbage and throw it out. The shepherds who neglect the young of the flock will taste the wrath of the Shepherd that gave His life for His sheep!

Deception enters when the standard for holiness and righteousness now becomes what you believe it should be, instead of what God says it is. You are enticed by your own deceiving heart and drawn away from the desires of the Spirit. You believe the lie, instead of the Word of Truth.

We must walk in Spirit and Truth. You cannot have one without the other. This is a heart that is fully consecrated to God. Your measure is His Word and you are guided by His Spirit. Without the Spirit the Word has no effect. You can know the entire Bible from beginning to end and preach it each Sunday off by heart, but if the Holy Spirit is not in your life, your preaching is void of any life and your life will bear no fruit.

It is not by might, nor by power but by the Spirit of the living God. We will not be able to love fully and abide in His truth, if we do not have the Holy Spirit and learn to walk by the Spirit. Jesus said My sheep hear My voice and another's they will not follow. We must be able to hear the voice of Jesus and know the Scriptures to guard ourselves against Deception.

Now many people would look at the woman who deceived my grandparents and call her a jezebel spirit. Even I did for a long time. This is the master deceiver at work. It is so deceiving, that it has even deceived us in what it is and what its name is. It keeps deceiving in order to keep from being uncovered and dealt with. Now we can re-look at the Scriptures in Revelations and gain a new perspective ...

**REVELATIONS 2:14 – 16** “But I have a few things against you. You have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who was teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before *Bnei-Yisrael*, to eat food sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality. <sup>15</sup> Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. <sup>16</sup> Repent then! If not, I will come to you soon and make war against them with the sword of My mouth.

Balaam was leading Balak to curse Israel! He knew God had spoken to him not to go with the King to curse Israel but he kept provoking God by questioning His word over and over. He was testing God! The King thought his money would be enough to deceive the Prophet into cursing Israel. But God would have none of it. He sent an angel with a sword that almost killed the prophet and then turned the intended curse into a blessing instead.





Had the prophet cursed Israel, a stumbling block would have been placed before them and evil would have been unleashed against them, which would have led them to wilfully sin against God. Does this sound familiar yet? In other words, Jesus was telling this church, they had some people among them that were filled with Deception. This Deception was causing stumbling blocks before His people and leading them to commit wilful sin. False teaching leads to Deception and will cause a curse and wilful sin.

Jesus then says He will make war with them with the sword of His mouth. Why? Because every word that proceeds from the mouth of God is truth! Truth will destroy every lie and expose every Deception. It is the same as the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. The Word of God destroys every lie and will stand against us in the Day of Judgement if we remain walking in Deception. This is exactly why prophets are so important and why prophets need to speak only what the Holy Spirit tells them! They are the standard of truth sent to people, to break them free from the enemies lies. Prophets are sent to call people to repentance by pointing out their sins and teaching them the right way to walk in. This is what this book is all about. God is once again pointing out the depths of our sins in His mercy and love and showing us the correct way to walk in.

False prophets who speak lies and never point out the Deception, will never bear fruit because the people remain in their sins, simply having their ears tickled now and then.

**REVELATIONS 2:20 – 29** “But this I have against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess—yet she is teaching and **deceiving** My servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. <sup>21</sup>I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her immorality. <sup>22</sup>Behold, I will throw her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation—unless they repent of her doings. <sup>23</sup>I will also strike her children with a deadly disease. Then all of Messiah’s communities will know that I am the One who searches minds and hearts, and I will give to each of you according to your deeds.

<sup>24</sup>“But to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold to this teaching and have not learned the so-called ‘deep things’ of satan—I place on you no other burden. <sup>25</sup>Only hold firm to what you have until I come. <sup>26</sup>To the one **who overcomes and guards My deeds** until the end, ‘I will give him authority over the nations

<sup>27</sup>and he shall rule them with an iron rod, as when clay pots are broken into pieces.’

<sup>28</sup>Even as I have received from My Father, so I will give him the morning star. <sup>29</sup>He who has an ear, **let him hear what the *Ruach* is saying** to Messiah’s communities.”

All this time we called it a Jezebel spirit. The Scriptures in both examples are clearly pointing to Deception.

This serpent spirit can take many forms. It is a master disguiser. It is also violent. It will attack, scream, and hide in many names and forms. It hides at the base of the spine. People who truly get delivered from this demon will scream, wriggle and even make snake like sounds or movements.

It is the same with actual snakes on earth. There are so many different species of snakes and so many differences between them. Some bite, some spit, some are poisonous and some constrict. But it still remains a snake.



What is shocking is seeing some people claim they are under the 'anointing' while making snake like movements and hissing and laughing like a snake. Many people even call this demon the Kundalini spirit. The false holy spirit. It mimics anything of God because it wants to deceive you. Once it can deceive you, you open the door for its possession. Just like we can be deceived in the Word of God, so we can think we receive spirits of God that is actually spirits of satan. In this instance the only way to know if we have the Spirit of God or the spirit of Deception is to test the fruit! What fruit is coming out of your life? Are you walking in holiness with a passion for Jesus Christ in your heart and His Word? Are you overcoming sin or are you lost in your sin? Do you walk in love or do you walk in judgement?

Many believe they have been baptised in the Holy Spirit when in fact it was a spirit of Deception. If you were not born again by changing as a person at some point of being baptised in water and Spirit, then I am afraid you did not receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit transforms the heart and causes us to love Christ and walk with Christ in deep surrender. We become a new man/woman. If there is no point you can look back on and say, that was the time I became a different person, there is something wrong.

Many people think they are saved the moment they say a five-minute prayer and receive a watered-down Gospel. Already the journey with Christ is set in Deception! No wonder they go right back to their old lives the next day and nothing changes because Deception was there from the beginning!

Oh that we would awaken to the evil that is gripping the church and leading those desperate for Jesus, deeper into the pits of hell! We will give account to the One who sits on the Throne and watches over our deeds. We are losing the souls of those He loves without any regard and care, the very souls He told us to save because He laid down HIS LIFE FOR THEM.

We are supposed to be a signpost toward the Kingdom of Heaven, instead we point people deeper into the Kingdom of darkness.

Deception has gripped the church of Jesus Christ.

We bow to manmade traditions and rules, coming from the 'Coverings' of our churches telling us what to believe and we keep the Spirit of Truth out of the churches allowing men to form our doctrines and we wonder why the church is producing false teachers, false prophets and false apostles at an alarming rate! Because men now call men and the Holy Spirit has no say any longer!

Some pastor or prophet puts his hands on the head of a man and says, 'you are a pastor/prophet.' You have made void the calling of God Himself. No man called me, no man anointed me, God Himself called me and equipped me and even had to carry me alone because no man had the love to stand by me. What is happening to the Body of Christ? We are ruled by Deception. We don't obey the Scriptures and therefore we see the people come to church Sunday after Sunday yet nothing changes in their lives. Ever! There is no love for Christ, there is no burning flame in their hearts. They sit in those chairs, lost in their sins, dead to the Gospel and dead in their hearts. Because the Spirit of life that raised Jesus from the dead is not within them and therefore, they do not belong to Him.

**ROMANS 8:9 – 11** However, you are not in the flesh but in the *Ruach*—if indeed the *Ruach Elohim* dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the *Ruach* of Messiah, **he does not belong to Him.** <sup>10</sup> But if Messiah is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the Spirit is alive because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> And if the *Ruach* of the One who raised *Yeshua* from the dead dwells in you, the One who raised Messiah *Yeshua* from the dead will also give **life** to your mortal bodies through His *Ruach* who dwells in you.



Because the church is lost in Deception, she bows to the traditions of men, she is cursed and will not allow the Holy Spirit in. It is the lukewarm church and Jesus said He will spit you out of His mouth.

**REVELATIONS 3:15 – 19** I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. Oh, that you were either cold or hot! <sup>16</sup>So because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spew you out of My mouth. <sup>17</sup>For you say, 'I am rich, I have made myself wealthy, and I need nothing.' But you do not know that you are miserable and pitiable and poor and blind and naked. <sup>18</sup>I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich, and white clothes so that you may dress yourself and so the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed, and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. <sup>19</sup>Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline. Therefore, be zealous and repent.

Notice the Deception in this church. Jesus says they think they are good, but in reality, they are blind and naked! Blindness refers to being deceived and naked is when we are no longer covered in the garments of righteousness with the belt of truth. This is the state of many churches today as we think we are good and holy but in reality, we are so far from the righteousness and truth of the Gospel and we do not know the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth.

**REVELATIONS 3:1 – 6** To the angel of Messiah's community in Sardis write: "Thus says the One having the seven spirits of God and the seven stars: I know your deeds—you have a reputation for being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup>Wake up, and strengthen what remains that was about to die. For I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of My God. <sup>3</sup>So remember what you have received and heard—keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you.

<sup>4</sup>"But still, you have a few people in Sardis who have not stained their clothes. They will walk with Me in white, because they are worthy. <sup>5</sup>The one who overcomes thus will be dressed in white clothes; I will never blot his name out of the Book of Life, and will confess his name before My Father and His angels. <sup>6</sup>He who has an ear, let him hear what the *Ruach/Holy Spirit* is saying to Messiah's communities.

During the writing of this Chapter I had another dream where I saw a man who had a white suit on, but he had gotten his suit stained by something black. He was distraught in the dream but I knew how to help him.

In the same way, this Scripture is referring to those who have gone astray from the Gospel and the Scriptures. They have a reputation of being alive but in reality, they are dead. This points to Deception. They make a lot of noise and have a lot of lights and musical equipment; their churches are filled with thousands and they seem so alive! In reality, they do not walk in Truth and neither is the Holy Spirit in their midst. Instead, they walk in the spirit of Deception and imitate the works of the Spirit. You will know them by their fruit!





After I was called, and I came to know the Holy Spirit, I began an incredible journey with Him. After being baptised in water and filled with the Holy Spirit, the Scriptures became alive to me. Each week the Holy Spirit started teaching me. For example, one week He would focus on forgiveness. I would find all the Scriptures relating to the subject with ease, and miraculously every sermon I watched would talk about forgiveness. In conversations with people, forgiveness would come up and even in the church on a Sunday, the pastor would talk about forgiveness. The Holy Spirit became my Teacher. I marvelled at all the things He would teach me week on week. He may have used people to add to my understanding or confirm things He taught me, but He was my only Teacher for all of my Christian walk. This book shows us the power in surrendering to the Holy Spirit as your Teacher.

I have not heard anyone teach the things that are written about in this book and neither, as I stated before, did it come to my mind. The Holy Spirit spoke it and the Holy Spirit is performing His word in it and touching the lives of His people through it. The fruit is already evident even before I published the book!

It was not an easy journey to go on. I faced many trials and many people mocked me and ridiculed me. The first question many asked me was, who is your covering? In other words, if you are not ordained by a church and covered by a church, we want nothing to do with you. In this way the church has allowed Deception in and is keeping the true servants of God out. We have come up with manmade systems to ensure that God no longer has any say, cannot call or anoint or teach any person Himself. Rather the church has now taken the position as Head of the Body and we have no more room for the Holy Spirit.

Because of the severe trials I faced, I doubted my calling many, many times. I started believing the lies, that I had lost my mind or that I had taken things too far. In the midst of drowning in the lies, God sent His prophet. A young prophet that walked a mighty path with the Holy Spirit came across my path and he looked at me and said, 'Rebeckah you are called as a prophet, stop doubting.' It was the first time in over a year that any human being had confirmed my calling! I was so relieved! All the fear and doubt and lies left me, and faith started growing within me once again.

Shortly after that, I started learning rapidly to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. You see, you cannot hear Him if you do not believe. Faith is the key that unlocks every part of your walk with Him. Even hearing His voice. How will you ever hear His voice if you believe you cannot hear Him? Or you believe He doesn't want to speak to you?

I come across many believers who still cannot hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and their biggest obstacle is faith. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing from the Word of God. We do not need to fear to hear Him or fear to hear Him incorrectly. Our measure is the Word. Always measure what you hear with Scripture.

Do not get discouraged if you hear incorrectly sometimes, especially in the beginning! You are learning to know His voice. He is merciful and gentle in nature. He desires to speak to all of His children as it is part of the New Covenant; that all will know Him from the least to the greatest. If you do not walk with the Holy Spirit, you are open to being deceived.

Scripture can be twisted to make you believe things that are not actually true. That is why there are so many different denominations. I have even been shown that some churches have taken the Bible and removed what did not fit in with their doctrine.



They changed the wording very cleverly and most remove the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. Therefore, we must walk by the Spirit to remain in Truth. He reveals truth to us and keeps us on the narrow path.

**1 JOHN 4:1 – 16** Loved ones, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God. For many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>You know the *Ruach Elohim* by this—every spirit that acknowledges that Messiah *Yeshua* has come in human flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup> but every spirit that does not acknowledge *Yeshua* is not from God. This is the spirit of the anti-messiah, which you have heard is coming and now is already in the world. <sup>4</sup>You are from God, children, and you have overcome them, because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world, so they speak from the world and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God; whoever knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

### God's Life-Giving Spirit of Love

<sup>7</sup>Loved ones, let us love one another, for love is from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>The love of God was revealed among us by this—that God sent His one and only Son into the world so that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup>This is love—not that we have loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atonement for our sins.

<sup>11</sup>Loved ones, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God abides in us and His love is made perfect in us. <sup>13</sup>We know that we abide in Him and He in us by this—because He has given us of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup>We have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son as Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup>If anyone acknowledges that *Yeshua* is *Ben-Elohim*, God abides in him and he abides in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and trust in the love that God has for us. God is love. Now whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

John tells us that there are signs that we must look for in those that truly belong to God and to know which spirit is from God and which is not. The signs are that those who walk with God, will confess that Jesus is Lord and Saviour, AND they will obey God by loving God and loving His people. He clearly tells us that this is the true test to know if someone is truly walking in the Holy Spirit and has God living within them; they love! Because God is love and if God is truly inside of a person, then that person cannot help but love!

Beloved, do not be deceived any longer, love is what sets true believers apart from the false ones. You will know them by their fruit. Love is what causes leaders to bear fruit in the Holy Spirit. Without love, you can do nothing. **JOHN 15**



I want to use one more example to show you how we listen to the voice of strangers on a daily basis and how it can have life changing impacts on us. One of the women who became a part of our prayer group, that was working through the book had something terrible happen to her during a vacation. She started having extremely painful stabs in her abdomen. She felt weak and nauseous and had to be rushed to a doctor.

The doctor did a sonar on her and discovered that she had problems with her gallbladder. The gallbladder had become so congested with gallstones that the doctor wanted to operate and remove the stones.

She then proceeded to tell me what the doctor said and I urged her not to proceed but rather to do a gallbladder flush, I myself had done before. I knew it could flush out gallstones. She immediately did the flush and to her amazement, hundreds of gallstones were flushed out. So she went back to the doctor and showed her the gallstones that were flushed out of her system. The doctor was shocked! I don't think she knew that the body could get rid of the stones without an operation.

Then the doctor proceeded to explain that they still needed to operate because there would most certainly be plenty more small stones and they needed to be removed. She sent her for another sonar to check how many stones were left.

The sonar came back with the results, stating that very few small stones were left and many large stones were still remaining. Now remember the doctor only had a problem with the small stones.

She then waited for the doctor to tell her what she thought about the new results and the phone call just didn't come. Eventually she started phoning the doctor's rooms and again was told to wait until the doctor phoned her. Days went by and nothing.

Eventually a week and a half later, the doctor finally phoned. Now she had changed what she said initially, and stated she now wanted to remove the entire gallbladder as the lining of the walls of the gallbladder has thickened and it MIGHT cause infections later on in her life. Notice how it went from one diagnosis to another. To say you want to remove a vital organ from a human's body on what might happen in future, is a bit shocking.

Most people listen to every word their doctor says and takes it as truth. They know what is best for you. You never consider what their intentions are either. What if that doctor really doesn't care about your health, all they care about is making money? Do you know what they get paid every time they go into surgery with you? Is it possible that they couldn't care less what the health consequences are to you if they removed one of your vital organs?

They don't tell their patients what happens after. They give you a quick solution that solves the problem now. Then they don't tell you what it is going to do to your body afterwards. God created you perfectly. Every organ in your body would not be there if you didn't need it. Yet today, organs are removed as if it is trash that just needs to get taken out!

This is exactly how we listen to the voices of strangers and not the voice of the Holy Spirit and then we get deceived and hurt! How many times do we listen to the voice of strangers and get hurt and then turn around and blame God for it?

Did you pray? Did you hear His voice leading you or see dreams of guidance BEFORE you made decisions? Do you listen to His voice and His voice alone?





How is it possible that Christians hang on every word that comes from their doctor's mouth, accept it as truth and do exactly what their doctor instructs them to do? You will change your whole life if the doctor tells you to. Take these pills, go on that diet, do this exercise, take out this organ, etc. Yet we have every excuse in the world not to listen to the great Physician of our hearts, the living God.

Stop listening to everyone else's voice and listen to the voice of God!





## SCRIPTURES

**JEREMIAH 23:21 – 32** “I did not send these prophets; yet they ran. I did not speak to them; yet they prophesied.

<sup>22</sup> If they have been present at My council, they should let my people hear My words and turn them from their evil way and the evil of their actions.

<sup>23</sup> Am I God only when near,” asks *Adonai*, “and not when far away?

<sup>24</sup> Can anyone hide in a place so secret that I won’t see him?” asks *Adonai*.

*Adonai* says, “Do I not fill heaven and earth?

<sup>25</sup> “I have heard what these prophets’ prophesying lies in My name are saying: ‘I’ve had a dream! I’ve had a dream!’ <sup>26</sup> How long will this go on? Is [my word] in the hearts of prophets who are prophesying lies, who are prophesying the **DECEIT OF THEIR OWN MINDS?**

<sup>27</sup> With their dreams that they keep telling each other, they hope to cause my people to forget My name; just as their ancestors forgot My name when they worshipped Ba’al.

<sup>28</sup> “If a prophet has a dream, let him tell it as a dream.

But someone who has My word should speak My word faithfully. What do chaff and wheat have in common?” asks *Adonai*.

<sup>29</sup> “Isn’t my word like fire,” asks *Adonai*, “like a hammer shattering rocks?

<sup>30</sup> So, I am against the prophets,” says *Adonai*, “who steal My words from each other.

<sup>31</sup> Yes, I am against the prophets,” says *Adonai*, “who speak their own words, then add, ‘He says.’

<sup>32</sup> “I am against those who concoct prophecies out of fake dreams,” says *Adonai*. “They tell them, and by their lies and arrogance they lead My people astray. **I didn’t send them, I didn’t commission them,** and they don’t do this people any good at all,” says *Adonai*.

This is such a clear picture of a prophet that started following their own heart and ways. They no longer turned to God for His council and direction. They rather made things up as they went along and told the people that God spoke. The Father tells us clearly that His true Word will point out wickedness and lead people to repentance. His Words will be like a hammer that shatters rock. In other words, He sends His Words to break through hardened hearts and bring people to their knees before Him. The prophets even copied other prophets’ words and claimed it as their own. I have seen this happen even with myself already.



When God speaks to me, there is a remembrance of each word that gets planted in my spirit. I have listened to other prophets and heard parts of my prophecies copied, word for word in their prophecies. This is happening to many prophets.

If we don't live a life consecrated to God, humble and surrendering our weaknesses to Jesus, we can be deceived and fall into sin. Once Deception has taken deep root, we wilfully sin against God and even start deceiving others. Always test the fruit beloved!

False prophets will lead you away from God. You will keep following them and listening to them, opening wide the door to Deception and before you know it, your relationship with God has grown cold, you don't want to sit at the feet of Jesus anymore, rather you run after the prophet and start idolising him or her. You treat them like they are god and soon things will start going wrong in your life. The curse will be unleashed against you and you will lose your blessings from God.

Many prophets are not even called or sent by God. They are manmade prophets and apostles and God never even taught them. This is the danger of having schools for the prophets and prophetic workshops and conferences. People are taught that all can prophesy and all are called as prophets. This is not scriptural. They are told to speak whatever comes to mind and that this is God. If you did not have a calling directly from God, then there is danger because you could be a false prophet then. God calls His prophets and apostles. God sends them and equips them. Don't take Him out of the process.

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:4 – 11** There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. <sup>7</sup> But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*: <sup>8</sup> for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

The Holy Spirit gives, the Holy Spirit wills, the Holy Spirit decides who gets what, it is ALL the work of the Holy Spirit.

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 – 30** Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. <sup>29</sup> *Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?* <sup>30</sup> *Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?*

Clearly, we are told that everyone does not have the same gifts or callings. Yet I have been told by a leader in a certain church that we are all prophets! Directly contradicting Scripture. Why is there so much confusion and deception? Because we do not submit to the Holy Spirit Himself who gives the gifts in the first place.

**1 KINGS 21 + 22:1 – 38** Please go read all of this Scripture before proceeding.

Now this is what the Holy Spirit referred to in His words to us regarding Ahab. Ahab had repented and the Lord had mercy upon him in **chapter 20**. Yet here he was pining after something that he could not have.





He did not seek God in his weakness but allowed himself to be deceived by Jezebel so that he could get what his heart desired. Notice how Jezebel acquired the vineyard of Naboth. She used deception by first exalting him and honouring him which was simply a trap to accuse him and kill him.

How many of the servants of God fall into similar traps laid by satan. They desire recognition and esteem and soon they get what they wanted. They are honoured by man and live lifestyles with every earthly pleasure. But their souls are headed to death and they don't even know it.

Ahab's weaknesses led him to be deceived and to be guilty of murder and theft. Then in **Chapter 22** we see the recompense of God on Ahab. Ahab allowed Deception in and now God sent a lying spirit into the mouth of all his prophets. The one even built horns claiming that Ahab would gore his enemies to victory!

Now, one prophet would not bow his knee to any man but only speak what God told him to speak. He was even shown what happened before God in heaven, as a lying spirit was sent to deceive Ahab. Ahab was so blinded that he believed the prophets that were lying and it led to his demise.

How many leaders in the Body of Christ, tells lies to gain the approval of man? How many tell false visions and dreams? How many say, "God is going to bless you", when the person is lost in their sins?

If you use the gifts of the Spirit for gain, you have already allowed in a spirit of Deception.

**JAMES 1:12 – 16** Happy is the one who endures testing, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord promised to those who love Him. <sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"—for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup> But each one is tempted when he is dragged away and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is full grown, it brings forth death.

<sup>16</sup> **Do not be deceived**, my dear brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, **with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.**

**JEREMIAH 17:9 – 10** "The heart is deceitful above all things,  
and incurable—who can know it?"

<sup>10</sup> | *Adonai* search the heart,  
I try the mind,  
to give every man according to his ways,  
according to the fruit of his deeds.

**1 JOHN 4:1 – 6** Loved ones, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God. For many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> You know the *Ruach Elohim* by this—every spirit that acknowledges that Messiah *Yeshua* has come in human flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup> but every spirit that does not acknowledge *Yeshua* is not from God. This is the spirit of the anti-messiah, which you have heard is coming and now is already in the world. <sup>4</sup> You are from God, children, and you have overcome them, because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup> They are from the world, so they speak from the world and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are from God; whoever knows God listens to us, but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

**2 PETER 2:1 - 19** But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you. They will secretly bring in destructive heresies.



They will even deny the Master who bought them—bringing swift destruction upon themselves. <sup>2</sup> Many will follow their immoral ways, and as a result the **way of the truth will be maligned**. <sup>3</sup> In their greed they will exploit you with **FALSE WORDS**. Their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction does not slumber.

<sup>4</sup> For God did not spare angels when they sinned, but threw them into *hell*. He put them in chains of gloomy darkness, to be held until the judgment. <sup>5</sup> He did not spare the ancient world. He preserved only Noah, a proclaimer of righteousness, along with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly. <sup>6</sup> He devastated the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, reducing them to ashes—making them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> He rescued Lot, a righteous man deeply troubled by the shameless immorality of the wicked.

<sup>8</sup> (For that righteous man, while living among them, was tormented in his righteous soul day after day by lawless deeds he saw and heard). <sup>9</sup> Therefore the Lord certainly knows how to rescue the godly from trials, and how to keep the unrighteous being punished until the Day of Judgment— <sup>10</sup> especially those who follow after the flesh in its unclean desires and who despise the Lord's authority.

Brazen and arrogant, these people do not tremble while slandering glorious beings; <sup>11</sup> yet even angels, though stronger and more powerful, do not bring a slanderous charge against them before the Lord. <sup>12</sup> But these people are like irrational animals — creatures of instinct born to be captured and killed. They malign what they don't understand, and in their destruction, they will be utterly destroyed. <sup>13</sup> They will be paid back for what they have done — evil for evil. They consider carousing in broad daylight a pleasure. They are blots and blemishes, revelling in their **deceitful** pleasures while feasting together with you. <sup>14</sup> They have eyes full of adultery that never stop sinning, **enticing unstable souls. They have hearts trained in greed—a cursed brood!** <sup>15</sup> They have abandoned the straight way. They have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. <sup>16</sup> But he received a rebuke for his own wrongdoing. A dumb donkey spoke with a man's voice and put a stop to the prophet's madness.

<sup>17</sup> These people are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. The gloom of utter darkness has been reserved for them. <sup>18</sup> For by mouthing grandiosities that amount to nothing, they entice in sensual fleshly passions those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. <sup>19</sup> They promise them freedom while they themselves are slaves of corruption — for a person is a slave to whatever has overcome him.

**ROMANS 16:17 – 18** Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, to keep your eye on those who are causing divisions and **stumbling blocks**, contrary to the teaching that you learned. Turn away from them. <sup>18</sup> For such people do not serve our Lord the Messiah, but only their own belly. By their smooth talk and flattery, **they deceive** the hearts of the unsuspecting.

**JEREMIAH 14:13 – 14** Then I said: “Oh my Lord, *Adonai*! The prophets keep telling them: ‘You will not see the sword nor famine, but I will give you true peace in this place.’”

<sup>14</sup> Then *Adonai* said to me: “The prophets prophesy lies in My Name! I did not send them, nor commanded them, nor did I speak to them. **They are prophesying to you a lying vision, divination, futility, a delusion of their heart.**”

**2 TIMOTHY 4:2 – 4** Proclaim the Word! Be ready when it is convenient or inconvenient. **Confront, rebuke, encourage**—with complete patience and instruction.



<sup>3</sup>For the time will come when they will not put up with sound instruction, but they will pile up for themselves teachers in keeping with their own desires, to have their ears tickled. <sup>4</sup>**And they will turn away from hearing the truth** and wander off to myths.

**EZEKIEL 22:28** Her prophets have plastered them with whitewash, seeing false visions and predicting lies to them, saying 'Thus says *Adonai Elohim*,' when *Adonai* has not spoken.

**JEREMIAH 5:30 – 31** An appalling and horrible thing has happened in the land.

<sup>31</sup>The prophets prophesy falsely, the *priests* rule by their own authority, and My people love it this way! But what will you do in the end?"

**MATTHEW 7:15 – 20** "Watch out for false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup>You will recognize them by their fruit. Grapes aren't gathered from thorn bushes or figs from thistles, are they? <sup>17</sup>Even so, every good tree produces good fruit, but the rotten tree produces bad fruit. <sup>18</sup>A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a rotten tree produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup>Every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup>So then, you will recognize them by their fruit.

**MATTHEW 24:4 – 5 + 11** *Yeshua* answered them, "Be careful that no one leads you astray! <sup>5</sup>For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and will lead many astray. <sup>11</sup>Many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.

**JUDE 1:4 + 16 – 19** For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>16</sup>These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and **they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.** <sup>17</sup>But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: <sup>18</sup>how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. <sup>19</sup>These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, **not having the Spirit.**

**COLOSSIANS 2:4 + 8 – 23** Now this I say lest anyone should **deceive** you with persuasive words.

<sup>8</sup>Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and **empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world,** and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; <sup>10</sup>and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

<sup>11</sup>In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, <sup>14</sup>having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.





<sup>16</sup> So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, <sup>17</sup> which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. <sup>18</sup> Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, <sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase *that is* from God.

**ACTS 13:6 – 11** Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name *was* Bar-Jesus, <sup>7</sup> who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man.

This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. <sup>8</sup> But Elymas the sorcerer (for so his name is translated) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. <sup>9</sup> Then Saul, who also *is called* Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him <sup>10</sup> and said, “O full of all DECEIT and all fraud, **you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord?** <sup>11</sup> And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord *is* upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.”

And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand.

The curse was sent against the false prophet by a true apostle of Jesus Christ.

**LAMENTATIONS 2:14** Your prophets have seen for you  
False and deceptive visions;  
**They have not uncovered your iniquity,**  
To bring back your captives,  
But have envisioned for you false prophecies and delusions.

**REVELATIONS 2:2** I know your works, your labour, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars.

How many test those who call themselves apostles?

**2 CORINTHIANS 11:2 – 4 + 13 - 15** 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. <sup>3</sup> But I fear, lest somehow, as **the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.** <sup>4</sup> For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or *if* you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

<sup>13</sup> For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And no wonder! For satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:19 – 21** Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies. <sup>21</sup> Test all things; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.

**DEUTERONOMY 13:1 – 11** “If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he **gives you a sign or a wonder,** <sup>2</sup> and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods’—which you have not known—‘and let us serve them,’



<sup>3</sup> you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the **Lord your God is testing you to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.** <sup>4</sup> You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice; you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.

<sup>5</sup> But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has spoken in order to turn *you* away from the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of bondage, to entice you from the way in which the Lord your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put away the evil from your midst.

<sup>6</sup> “If your brother, the son of your mother, your son or your daughter, the wife of your bosom, or your friend who is as your own soul, secretly entices you, saying, ‘Let us go and serve other gods,’ which you have not known, neither you nor your fathers, <sup>7</sup> of the gods of the people which *are* all around you, near to you or far off from you, from *one* end of the earth to the *other* end of the earth, <sup>8</sup> you shall not consent to him or listen to him, nor shall your eye pity him, nor shall you spare him or conceal him; <sup>9</sup> but you shall surely kill him; your hand shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. <sup>10</sup> And you shall stone him with stones until he dies, because he sought to entice you away from the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. <sup>11</sup> So all Israel shall hear and fear, and not again do such wickedness as this among you.

**2 TIMOTHY 3:13 – 15** But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, <sup>15</sup> and that from childhood you have known the **Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**1 TIMOTHY 4:1 – 7** Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to **deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons**, <sup>2</sup> speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, <sup>3</sup> forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. <sup>4</sup> For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; <sup>5</sup> for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

<sup>6</sup> If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed. <sup>7</sup> But reject profane and old wives’ fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness.

**EPHESIANS 4:11 – 25** And **He Himself gave some to be** apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> 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; <sup>14</sup> 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**, <sup>15</sup> but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— <sup>16</sup> 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.



<sup>17</sup>This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, <sup>18</sup>having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; <sup>19</sup>who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

<sup>20</sup>But you have not so learned Christ, <sup>21</sup>if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:

<sup>22</sup>that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, <sup>23</sup>and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, <sup>24</sup>and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

<sup>25</sup>Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbour,” for we are members of one another.

It is interesting to note that the fivefold ministry was given to guard the sheep from false doctrine and keep them on the path of truth so that the Body of Christ will walk in unity in the faith. Therefore, it is important to take notice when the true servants of God warn of deceit. God not only guides you through the Holy Spirit but He has also equipped leaders to protect you from deceit. Yet many people are so stubborn they will not listen to leaders at all. If a leader corrects you and tells you that you are following a lie or you are being deceived, you MUST go to God immediately! Pray and ask Him to show you the truth beloved. Do not take it lightly else you could be opening your body to the occupation of demons that will keep you in their deceit and blind your mind to God’s truth. The curse will then be unleashed against you and you will lose your blessings from God.

I find very few people who will listen when I warn them that they are following false prophets and Deception. Yet it is my calling to know and point them to the truth. God shows me every time yet these people won’t listen. Then, when you warn them and they don’t listen, you watch things go horribly wrong in their lives. Still they don’t connect the dots. They don’t see how they allowed Deception in and the servant of God warned them but they refused to listen. We need to let go of our stubbornness for the sake of our very lives!

God ordained the fivefold ministry for a very good reason. Just make sure those you follow are actually true leaders, chosen and sent by God! Many people have testified to me that they go to God and ask Him about me. I am always pleasantly surprised how God will show them that I am His servant in dreams.

Ask Him about those who lead you and then listen to Him!

**2 THESSALONIANS 2:1 – 4** Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, <sup>2</sup>not 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. <sup>3</sup>Let 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,** <sup>4</sup>who 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.





**1 PETER 3:10 – 12** For “He who would love life,  
And see good days,  
Let him refrain his tongue from evil,  
And his lips from speaking **deceit**.  
<sup>11</sup> Let him turn away from evil and do good;  
Let him seek peace and pursue it.  
<sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the Lord *are* on the righteous,  
And His ears *are open* to their prayers;  
But the face of the Lord *is* against those who do evil.”

How many times do you deceive with your mouth? In casual conversation or family gatherings or work meetings? Do you ever speak falsely? Do you ever pretend to be something that you are not? Do you ever destroy another person with your mouth?

We teach our children to walk around with a deceitful mouth because they learn to boast of things that are not so, they mouth grandiosities to gain approval, they learn to speak in ways that will draw approval and recognition to them, setting them up to become the perfect false prophet. Why don't we start teaching our children to be real?

**PSALM 5:6** You shall destroy those who speak falsehood;  
The Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

**PSALM 101:7** He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house;  
He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence.

In the same manner, we should not allow Deception near us in any way.

**REVELATIONS 21:8** But 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.”

**PROVERBS 26:24 – 26** He who hates, disguises *it* with his lips,  
And lays up deceit within himself;  
<sup>25</sup> When he speaks kindly, do not believe him,  
For *there are* seven abominations in his heart;  
<sup>26</sup> *Though his* hatred is covered by deceit,  
His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly.

How many times do we hide it when we don't like someone? We pretend to like them, we put on a nice face and treat them with kindness but in our mind and our heart we are thinking all kinds of evil about them. This is what we call two facedness. It is evil before God. You should never pretend with people. You are allowing a spirit of Deception into your life and the lives of those you are deceiving. Rather pray to God to give you a new heart for the person and remove whatever it is you don't like about them. Or be courageous enough to be honest about how you feel and what bothers you about them. I find it interesting that this Scripture also mentions seven abominations. Just as God revealed seven Strongmen and Jesus even refers to seven more wicked spirits in the New Testament. We will also see God give us seven things He hates later on.



**MARK 7:20 – 23** And He said, “What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. <sup>21</sup>For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, <sup>22</sup>thefts, covetousness, wickedness, **deceit**, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within and defile a man.”

**PROVERBS 6:16 – 19** These six *things* the Lord hates,  
Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him:

<sup>17</sup> A proud look,

A lying tongue,

Hands that shed innocent blood,

<sup>18</sup> A heart that devises wicked plans,

Feet that are swift in running to evil,

<sup>19</sup> A false witness *who* speaks lies,

And one who sows discord among brethren.

In this Scripture we see a list of things that God hates. God hates everything that is evil because He is good and He is righteous. Anything that is against who He is, is evil. But here is a list of some things that sums up those things that are contrary to His ways.

In studying the list, you see Deception come up a few times; a lying tongue, a heart that devises wicked plans, a false witness that speaks lies. Three out of the list of seven points to Deception. That should give us an indication of how evil it truly is.

**GALATIANS 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. <sup>8</sup>For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life

We tend to do exactly what this Scripture is telling us not to. We deceive ourselves in believing that we can do whatever our flesh desires and still live a spiritual life. We believe grace is enough to cover our continued sins and we do not need to conform to the ways of God. Yet through this book we see that it has been our greatest Deception and we have even allowed the enemy to rule over us. We need to stop mocking God with lukewarm service and living with one foot in the world.

The beauty of the Holy Spirit cannot be measured. He cannot be explained properly. How do you explain Spirit? There is nothing on this earth He can be compared to. Therefore, you have to experience Him for yourself. He is available to all, that is His promise. If you will diligently seek Him, you shall surely find Him. Then this world and all of its temptations, fall away in the Presence of the Almighty God. You want to know what drives me to follow God regardless of the severe trials and difficulties I have faced?

If what drove me was money, I would have given up by now. If what drove me was fame, I would have given up by now. No, the fire that refines has burned away all chaff in my life and left what is pure and precious in the sight of God; my faith in Him. I believe in Him and I follow Him because He loves me and has revealed Himself to me. I have come to know the Almighty. And what I found in Him, I could never give up, not for any amount of money, not for any amount of fame, not for my children, not for my husband, not for any temptation of the flesh will I ever give up the treasure I found in my Father! No matter how hard the journey and no matter what price I have to pay. He is worth it. I will carry my cross and follow Him!



**LUKE 14:26 – 33** If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. <sup>27</sup> And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish *it* — <sup>29</sup> lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see *it* begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish?’ <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. <sup>33</sup> So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has, cannot be My disciple.

**ACTS 2:37 – 39** Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?”

<sup>38</sup> Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

These are the steps given to the first people who desired to become believers in Jesus Christ. They had to repent; meaning they had to ask God for forgiveness of all their sins and then turn away from those sins and no longer commit them.

Then they had to be baptised in water; meaning fully immersed in a baptismal pool or river to be baptised in the death of Jesus and come out of the water in resurrection to your new life with Christ, this is not a baptism of sprinkled water or a christening as a baby. If you have not been baptised in water after accepting Jesus as Lord and repenting, you need to do it! It is a requirement in Scripture. Then you had to be filled with the Holy Spirit; God’s Spirit now had to come and make His home within you and walk with you.

These vital steps of becoming a believer that walks with Jesus has been where the enemy has brought the most Deception in the church. If the enemy manages to keep you from taking these vital steps, you will never manage to walk in union with Christ. Millions of believers have not taken some of these vital steps.

If we look at repentance, the very first step, we see that instead of repenting the way God intended, we now teach people to say a quick prayer to receive Jesus as their Saviour and then just give a blanket prayer for their past sins, then we say the person is now saved. They have entered into Life from Death in a few minutes! It doesn’t matter what the person has done in the past or how long they have been entangled in sin, they are now forgiven of everything in a moment.

Yet Jesus taught us that there is a need to uncover every area where the enemy has entangled us in the past to gain true freedom and understand just how deep His sacrifice for us was. We don’t teach people right from the start, the true Gospel. If they do not understand just what Jesus did for them in its fullness, they will not understand just how deep their sin has been. It is only in the reflection of the cross that we understand our evil. It is only when darkness has been fully exposed that we understand how to walk in the Light. Through this book we are looking at the sacrifice of Jesus Christ with new eyes. We are becoming fully aware of how deep and wide that sacrifice was to cover every part of our sins before God. This leads us to genuine repentance as we see our sins in light of the cross.





If someone desires to follow Christ, I believe repentance should be a journey they are led on first over a number of weeks even. Because humanity has been so submerged into darkness, there is so much more that needs to be exposed within us. What a difference it would make in the life of a new believer to be led to uncover every sin, understand fully the price that was paid and understand fully what they were now surrendering to God to no longer walk in and follow Christ. How much of a difference would it make if the person understood the price they needed to pay? The price required a complete surrender of their lives to Jesus Christ to walk in holiness and union with the Holy Spirit, turning away from evil and not succumbing to the snares of the enemy. Imagine a new believer who has just been lit up with a burning flame for Christ, equipped with this kind of knowledge and cleansed from all sin! Imagine what kind of believers the church would then produce instead of these confused, lost and barely hanging on, kinds of believers.

Being extremely diligent in the very first step would make all the difference in people's lives!

But instead of sustenance, the church has been consumed with numbers. Evangelists pursue the numbers and have huge conferences where thousands come and bow at the pulpit. They then boast of their ability to save thousands of souls but no one ever sees if these souls are still walking with Christ even a week later. Numbers bring in money. The soul is no longer precious. Just say that five-minute prayer and I can add you to my numbers. This was never what the Gospel was intended for! That prayer is only the beginning of a journey that is supposed to transform the life of that person from darkness to Light.

Repentance is not only necessary to be delved in much deeper from the start, but must become a part of the life of a believer. This is what Jesus Himself taught us. We see it in the model prayer. Forgive us our trespasses Father. It is necessary for continued reflection to see our sins and seek forgiveness from the Father, for our sins.

Then Deception has entered in at the second step of walking with Christ. The church at large has done away with full submerging in water after repentance. We are taught that babies can be sprinkled upon their foreheads and they never need to be baptised in water again. This is contrary to the Word of God. Nowhere does it tell us to baptise our babies or sprinkle them with a little water. Each man and each woman must be fully submerged in water after repentance. A sprinkling with water is not sufficient even as an adult.

You are told to be fully submerged because it is an act of obedience, declaring that you have become one with Christ in His death and have now been cleansed of your sins, coming out of the water in union with Christ in His resurrection, abiding within the Life that He paid for you to have. You become a new creation through this ritual and declare that you are now fully submersed in Christ. He did not step into death for a few seconds, He was fully submerged into death for three days and three nights! How can you say a sprinkling is sufficient to unite you with Christ's sacrifice?

I can testify that after I had been saved for a few months and I was urged by the Holy Spirit to get water baptised, something changed after baptism. Suddenly the Scriptures became alive to me. I had so much more understanding of the Word of God that wasn't there before baptism in water.



**COLOSSIANS 2:11 – 13** In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup> buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with *Him* through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Baptism in water is the same as the circumcision of the flesh in the Old Testament. In the Old Testament, they had to enter the old covenant/be joined to the covenant, through the circumcision of the flesh. You could not be a part of the old covenant if you did not take this vital step. In the same way, baptism in water is the entering in to the new covenant. You cannot be a part of the new covenant if you have not been fully submerged in water. Going under the water is a burial of your old life and coming up out of it is a resurrection; God raising you from the dead as He did Christ.

**ROMANS 6:3 – 4** Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

**ACTS 22:16** And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

It was a vital step in the early church yet today we have twisted the Word of God to rather do what we think is right. This is Deception at work because we are straying from what God has said. We are instead listening to the voice of the serpent, 'Did God really say?' And just like Eve, we start distorting what God actually said so plainly and clear.

It is a terribly sad thought for me, that this beautiful and meaningful part of our walks with Jesus, has been so distorted by the very church that claims to know Jesus, and those poor souls who believe they are doing the right thing, is in fact stepping onto a path with Deception leading them deeper into sin. Where they believe they are being set free from sin! What a Deception! The fruit will most certainly reveal the tree.

As we come out of the baptismal waters, the Father announces as surely as He did with Jesus, 'This is My beloved son/daughter, in whom I am well pleased.'

Then the last step to secure you on this path of sanctification and relationship, is the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

**EZEKIEL 36:25 – 27** Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*.

After baptism we receive a cleansing where God has given us a completely new spirit. Now He says He will put His Spirit within us to live a life of obedience to His Word and walk in the right way, His way. It is a completely new life with new desires. You literally become a new person!

If I look back on the person I used to be before God, I do not even recognise her anymore! It is a strange thing to me because I feel like I was never that person.



I remember her life and everything that happened but it doesn't feel like me, if that makes sense. I am a new creation. God made me completely new. This means I have a new personality, new way of thinking, new desires, new dreams, new everything. Yes, some old things came with that I did not realise until now. Because they had not been exposed until now. But I changed as a person regardless. People who used to know me think I am strange now. They can clearly see that I have changed. They do not know me anymore. My behaviour is very different. This is the work of the Holy Spirit who begins to transform us into the image of Christ once we become new.

**GALATIANS 4:6** And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

When the Holy Spirit fills us, we can now love God the way He desires for us to love Him. He now becomes our Daddy and we love to be in this relationship with Him. Without the Holy Spirit we cannot experience this love connection between God and man. Only the Spirit of God can reveal this love to our hearts and bring us in union with Him completely.

**1 CORINTHIANS 6:17** But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

God now comes to dwell within us as the glory of God dwelt within the Holy of Holies in the old covenant.

**JOHN 14:15 – 18 + 20, 21, 23** "If you love Me, keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and **He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—** <sup>17</sup> **the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."

<sup>20</sup> At that day you will know that I *am* in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

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.**

Our entering into the new covenant and being joined with Christ is all dependant on the Holy Spirit's indwelling within us. The Scriptures declare that the Holy Spirit becomes the SEAL of our salvation. In other words, only when the Holy Spirit dwells within us, do we have surety that we are now sons and daughters of the Most High God and we have become one with Christ and eternal life is now abiding within us.

**2 CORINTHIANS 1:21 – 22** Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God, <sup>22</sup> who also has **sealed** us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

**EPHESIANS 1:13 – 14** In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were **sealed** with the Holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:5** Now He who has prepared us for this very thing *is* God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.





**EPHESIANS 4:30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed** for the day of redemption.

Without the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, we do not yet belong to Christ. Obviously, the enemy will deceive us in this very area because we will not be joined to Christ if we miss this vital step. Therefore, we will still be joined to the enemy and the life that is in Christ will never be tasted. Deception has blinded the church in so many denominations, where they do not even believe in the Holy Spirit. Can you see clearly now that the church at large is not saved because they simply said a little prayer, sprinkled some water on as a baby and then never received the Holy Spirit. Yet these millions of people believe they are saved! Those that deceived them will surely answer to the Almighty, but those who have been deceived has no excuse, they had the bible. They never bothered to study it for themselves.

Others know about the Holy Spirit but they never receive the Spirit. It has been harder to find someone that can pray for the true baptism of the Holy Spirit these days than it is to find a needle in a haystack.

**ACTS 10:44** While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.

The early church was walking in such power and purity that even just the preaching of the Word, caused an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on some converts. These people had not even been baptised in water yet, which Peter quickly ensured they did afterwards. Why is it that today we find it so hard to be baptised in the Holy Spirit? What has gone wrong?

Another way this snake deceives us concerning the Holy Spirit, is by producing a false spirit and making us believe that it is the Holy Spirit. Large churches are many times flowing in a spirit of Deception. It mimics the Holy Spirit and causes people to have some spiritual experience, oblivious to the fact that it is an imitation. They laugh, shake, dance and act like they are intoxicated under the spell of this false spirit of Deception. I have witnessed videos of people claiming the Holy Spirit poured out in their church yet the people are slithering around like snakes!

The very first sign of a true baptism of the Holy Spirit is a love that is ignited for Christ and the Father. Your heart now burns to know Him more. You abide within this love so fervently that your desire is to obey Him completely. Suddenly you hate sin. You love the Scriptures and you love walking the paths of righteousness. Your heart has been transformed. It becomes evident that God is your Father and Christ has now become your Master and King.

Yes, it begins with a spiritual experience that might be different for everyone. When it happened to me, I began weeping at the Presence of Holiness and Love. He stole my heart and nothing could ever take my heart from Him again after that moment. I did not immediately start praying in tongues. That came after almost a year only.

There must be a spiritual experience but there must be fruit thereafter. If you wonder if you have ever received the Holy Spirit then that is the evidence that you have not. You cannot receive Him and not know it!

We can even be continued to be filled by Him on a daily basis. As we seek Him in relationship, He continues to touch our lives in the secret place of communion. I have had so many encounters with Him I cannot possibly count them. He has even changed my physical voice at times.



I don't have a nice voice to sing praises to Him, so one day I asked Him during praise to give me a voice that can sing like an angel. Seconds later my voice changed and I could hit those high notes with ease and I sounded just like an angel! I was floored and I could not stop singing after that! Other times when I minister in the Holy Spirit you can literally hear my voice change as His Presence falls upon me.

**EPHESIANS 5:18** And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation, (overindulgence in physical pleasures) but be filled with the Spirit.

Many cannot receive the Holy Spirit because they have forsaken the very first step ... repentance. To repent is to turn away from sin. Scriptures declare that getting drunk is a sin and yet many continue enjoying their pleasures of the world and expect God to pour out on them at the same time. This verse is placing drinking in direct opposition to being filled with the Spirit.

**GALATIANS 5:16 – 21** I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, **sorcery**, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, **heresies**, <sup>21</sup> envy, murders, **drunkenness**, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that **those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

I know from my own experiences, whenever I had even just a few drinks, I could sense that I had grieved the Holy Spirit. I knew that I had to choose, either His presence or alcohol. I could not have both.

It is like the sorcerer who sought the Holy Spirit for the wrong reasons but Peter rebuked him and told him his heart was too wicked. Here we see sorcery and heresy placed on the same level as drunkenness. And it clearly states those who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God! If the Holy Spirit is the seal of our inheritance of the Kingdom of God, then obviously the Holy Spirit is not going to seal a drunk or a sorcerer or a heretic etc.

It is interesting to note that alcohol does exactly what the Strongman of Deception does. Alcohol lowers your ability to know what is right and wrong. Your senses are numbed and you will usually land up doing things or saying things that you would not say under normal circumstances. We cannot possibly believe that God is ok with that. When we are being shown the narrow path so clearly, is it ok to wander off of it for just a few hours every now and then and think the enemy did not notice? Be not deceived, God is not mocked, whoever sows to the flesh will reap corruption.

It is like seeing the High Priest go into the Holy of Holies, drunk! God would have incinerated him right there. If the Spirit of God dwells within you, how can you make His dwelling drunk? Or why would He want to dwell within someone who gets drunk regularly? That Holy God who dwells in unapproachable light is not going to come and make His home within a temple that loses self-control at any point.

**GALATIANS 2:20** I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.



**EPHESIANS 3:14 – 19** For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through **His Spirit in the inner man**, <sup>17</sup> that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— <sup>19</sup> to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that **you may be filled with all the fullness of God**.

Today we are taught to come to God and just say we are sorry but never change. I heard a story about a pastor who thought it was ok to continue drinking even though he was a pastor. One day a man came to visit him that had just given his life to Jesus recently.

He offered the man a beer and saw the man hesitate but take up his offer. They had a nice visit and off the man went. Years later he bumped into this man again. It turns out that this man was an alcoholic before he came to Jesus. That day the pastor offered him that beer; he basically placed a temptation right in front of him again. The man took the temptation and fell back into alcoholism. He also walked away from the faith.

A pastor had tempted a man and caused him to abandon Christ!

The pastor never touched alcohol again.

Because we become so arrogant as to set the standard of holiness ourselves, grabbing hold of what suits us and discarding the rest of Scripture, we walk in Deception and lead everyone around us astray.

**PROVERBS 20:1** Wine *is* a mocker,  
Strong drink *is* a brawler,  
And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

Yes people had wine as communion. And some even got drunk at gatherings on communion! Paul rebukes them and tells them they are defiling the cup of the Lord and drinking judgement upon themselves. **1 CORINTHIANS 11**

**PROVERBS 23:29 – 35** Who has woe?

Who has sorrow?

Who has contentions?

Who has complaints?

Who has wounds without cause?

Who has redness of eyes?

<sup>30</sup> Those who linger long at the wine,

Those who go in search of mixed wine.

<sup>31</sup> Do not look on the wine when it is red,

When it sparkles in the cup,

*When* it swirls around smoothly;

<sup>32</sup> At the last **it bites like a serpent,**

And **stings like a viper.**

<sup>33</sup> Your eyes will see strange things,

And your heart will utter perverse things.

<sup>34</sup> Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea,

Or like one who lies at the top of the mast, *saying*:





<sup>35</sup> "They have struck me, *but* I was not hurt;  
They have beaten me, but I did not feel *it*.  
When shall I awake, that I may seek another *drink*?"

If you were never a big drinker, have a little wine for communion. I mean a small, tiny glass. Nothing wrong with a little wine to remember the Lord's sacrifice. But if you were a big drinker, why tempt yourself? God would not expect you to tempt yourself every time you remember the very sacrifice that set you free. Have some grape juice, it is just as good for remembering. And if you must have a little wine at other times, without getting drunk, do it by yourself at home. Stop leading others to sin. Paul said if my meat causes my brother to stumble, I shall never eat meat again! Yet we do not think twice to cause our brothers and sisters to stumble. We place a stumbling block before them, and we have learnt now what happens when stumbling blocks come. Deception enters, the curse is unleashed and wilful sin is the order of the day.

With all of this in mind, it is no wonder that so many do not experience the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We are to repent and turn from our wicked ways before we receive Him. And then we are to ensure that we walk in obedience to Him and never grieve Him or quench Him. He can depart from us if we sin long enough and fall into continual evil. **Psalm 51** David declares, take not thy Holy Spirit from me after he sinned in adultery and murder.

We learn that He can be taken from us if we do not repent and we can be forgiven at the same time for really bad things too and not lose Him. Repentance is the key. Turning away from wickedness.

I remember in the beginning when I came to know the Holy Spirit and I was walking with Him every day, I had become so tuned into His Presence that I was aware of Him with me in every moment, and I was aware of when I grieved Him and His Presence slightly lifted. One day, we were standing in the first church we were in, just praising God. Usually this would be the time His Presence would pour out on me the most powerfully. This particular day though, I suddenly became aware that He left! It was like being filled with life and joy and peace in one moment, then suddenly being plunged into darkness. I was completely bewildered! Where did He go! What did I do wrong? I stood there feeling completely lost in that moment.

Then, just as suddenly as what He left, He returned and my darkness was turned into light again. He spoke to me at this point and told me that He wanted me to be aware of what it feels like when He is not with me! Oh gosh, there is nothing more painful on this planet! Once you have tasted that sweetness and light, to have it taken from you is a horrible experience.

It was just like I explained before, when He enters you, it is like a light is suddenly switched on inside of you and you realise that you were walking in darkness all this time and you did not even know it. It is glorious! But then to have that light taken away again, is worse off than what you were before! Paul talks about this as a dog returning to its vomit. You lost the Presence of the Holy Spirit because you chose to return to your former sins and grieve Him.

This is exactly what happened to my husband just a few weeks after being baptised in the Holy Spirit. He was standing in church when suddenly the Holy Spirit left. Emptiness filled his soul. The light was replaced by darkness. Also interesting to note is that days before, we had gone out with friends of ours and everybody was drinking. It wasn't something we had done in years.



But it happened weeks after David was filled with the Holy Spirit. He went overboard that night, he became very drunk. Soon he started shifting focus on earthly things again and that day in the church, the Holy Spirit left.

How will you walk this path without Him? How will you learn or grow or love or be comforted or do anything without the indwelling of the Holy Spirit? He is everything we need. The church has lost her ability to shine and be that light to the nations because she lost the only One that kept her alive or had the ability to raise her from the dead; The Holy Spirit of the Living God/the Ruach ha Kodesh/the Spirit of Christ/the Spirit of Truth/the Breath of God.

Oh come Holy Spirit, forgive our trespasses against You and breathe Your life upon us again!



I want to look at the curse and blessings that God spoke over Israel in the Old Testament. It is interesting that we still claim the blessings today and we will accept it when someone speaks an Old Testament blessing over us, but when we bring up the curse of the Old Testament, we quickly reject it as old covenant law. Yes, Jesus came to set us free from the curse of the law. Yet we have now learnt that allowing Deception in causes a curse to be unleashed against us that directly affects our blessings. It is astonishing to read the Old Testament curse and see how a lot of it is happening to us today.

**DEUTERONOMY 28:15 – 34** “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:

<sup>16</sup> “Cursed *shall you be* in the city, and cursed *shall you be* in the country.

<sup>17</sup> “Cursed *shall be* your basket and your kneading bowl (Provision).

<sup>18</sup> “Cursed *shall be* the fruit of your body (children) and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks (farmers).

<sup>19</sup> “Cursed *shall you be* when you come in, and cursed *shall you be* when you go out. (Wherever you go).

<sup>20</sup> “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. <sup>21</sup> The Lord will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from the land which you are going to possess. <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> And your heavens which *are* over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you *shall be* iron. (It doesn’t matter how hard you work, it will produce very little). <sup>24</sup> 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. (Drought).

<sup>25</sup> “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. <sup>26</sup> 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. <sup>27</sup> The Lord will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumours, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed. <sup>28</sup> The Lord will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart. <sup>29</sup> 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*.

<sup>30</sup> “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. <sup>31</sup> 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*. <sup>32</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> A nation whom you have not known shall eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labour, and you shall be only oppressed and crushed continually.





<sup>34</sup> So you shall be driven mad because of the sight which your eyes see. <sup>35</sup> 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.

This is just part of the curse, please go read the rest yourself. Now we understand that this is what happened to Israel when they betrayed the old covenant. The new covenant is much more glorious and we are promised much better promises. The new covenant is initiated by the blood of Jesus Christ where the old covenant was initiated by the blood of bulls. How much more would you think the curse would fall on someone who has rejected the terms of the new covenant and made a mockery of the sacrifice of the Son of God?

I think a lot of people will not be able to read this curse in the Old Testament and not see some form of it upon their lives. This is the reason; you have allowed the Strongman of Deception into your life and not remained in the boundaries of Truth that ensures protection and blessing.

**DEUTERONOMY 28:1 – 14** 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. <sup>2</sup> And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.

<sup>4</sup> “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.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

<sup>6</sup> “Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

<sup>7</sup> “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.

<sup>8</sup> “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.

<sup>9</sup> “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. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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*. <sup>14</sup> 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.

**PROVERBS 3:1 – 6** My son, do not forget my law,  
But let your heart keep my commands;



<sup>2</sup> For **length of days and long life**  
**And peace they will add to you.**

<sup>3</sup> Let not mercy and **truth** forsake you;  
Bind them around your neck,  
Write them on the tablet of your heart,  
<sup>4</sup> *And* so find favour and high esteem  
In the sight of God and man.

<sup>5</sup> **Trust in the Lord with all your heart,**  
**And lean not on your own understanding;**  
<sup>6</sup> **In all your ways acknowledge Him,**  
**And He shall direct your paths.**

Please also read **Hebrews Chapter 3** and **Chapter 4**.

**HEBREWS 3:12 – 15** Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; <sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” **lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.** <sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, <sup>15</sup> while it is said:

“Today, if you will hear His voice,  
Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

The writer of Hebrews warns us to not harden our hearts towards God’s voice and fall into disobedience as Israel did. If we walk by the Holy Spirit and are joined to Christ in our daily lives, fully surrendered and obedient to Him and His Word, we enter into a rest that God has promised to those who will obey Him. I have tasted and experienced this rest! It is glorious and nothing on this earth can compare to it. Nothing can touch you in His rest, no one can harm you, everything works for your good, favour goes before you, when you call, God says, ‘Here I am.’

We have complicated the journey of faith and we are keeping thousands of souls out of the simplicity of the Gospel. Repent, be baptised in water, receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and walk with Him daily in surrender and obedience to Him and the Word. Then we shall enter a rest that is indescribable!

Now let us look at what Jesus did to set us free from this wicked Strongman ...

**Isaiah 53:9** And they made His grave with the wicked—  
But with the rich at His death,  
Because He had done no violence,  
Nor *was any* deceit in His mouth.

Jesus willingly laid down His own life for us. He went to the grave willingly! Yet He never deceived anyone. He spoke only Truth. You simply have to read the words of Christ to feel that truth burn into your heart! Jesus was truth in the flesh. His life exemplified the unity that can take place between God and man. He only said what He heard His Father speaking and only did what He saw Him do. He lived in obedience to the Father and His Word.

Then, after perfect obedience, He said yes to the grave. He laid down His life even though He had done nothing wrong and no deceit was in Him.



He did it for us! He went to the grave so that we could find new life in Him. So that we could be baptised into His death and rise in His resurrection with Him and obtain a purification from all the Deceitfulness of sin. We could be made clean, spotless as if we never knew deceit, and we had never known violence.

The snake with its deceit will plunge you into darkness and violence. Jesus went to the grave so that you could be free from it!

**EPHESIANS 2:1 – 10** And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, <sup>3</sup> among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not of works, lest anyone should boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

**JOHN 7:16 – 19** Jesus answered them and said, “My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. <sup>17</sup> If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or *whether* I speak on My own *authority*. <sup>18</sup> He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. <sup>19</sup> Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?”

Jesus could never be deceived. He knew the hearts of men, he knew their thoughts and intentions even when they denied it. Because He lived fully surrendered to God. He only did His Father’s will and the Father exposed all deceit to Him wherever He went. This is the life we have access to when we live surrendered to the Holy Spirit. We will know truth when it is spoken, and we will know deceit even when it is in the hearts of man and they deny it.

**JOHN 8:12** Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

**JOHN 1:1 – 16** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John. <sup>7</sup> This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. <sup>8</sup> He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light. <sup>9</sup> That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.



<sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and **truth**.

<sup>15</sup> John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ ”

<sup>16</sup> And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and **truth** came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*.

**JOHN 3:3 – 20** Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.** <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> **The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.**”

<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? <sup>11</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

<sup>18</sup> “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that **the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.** <sup>20</sup> For **everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.** <sup>21</sup> But he who does the **truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.**”





## VISION

Taking note of what Jesus said about those that are born of the Spirit, are like the wind: you do not know where it comes from and you do not know where it goes.

I have this vision one day of me riding on a bicycle. I am riding on the main road and suddenly out of nowhere, this wind comes up from behind me and starts directing this bicycle. I start going extremely fast and I get nervous because I don't have any more control over this bicycle. The wind is controlling the bicycle. I see how I even try to put my feet down to just slow the speed at which this bicycle is going. I don't manage to do that and it seems I just have to let go and trust the wind.

I get to an intersection and suddenly the wind turns the bicycle to turn right. It is such a sudden turn, the wheels did not turn, rather the whole bicycle turned in a flash. I am still traveling on this road and the wind is directing me until I get turned into a shopping complex.

It was nerve wrecking to forego wanting to gain control of this bicycle and just letting go, and trusting the wind to guide me. This is the perfect picture of what it is like to walk with the Holy Spirit.

His force/wind/power comes upon you suddenly and He takes over to lead you where you need to go. It is a process to learn to let go and trust Him. He comes with such power and yet gentleness that takes you on a journey you never dreamed possible. You may feel fear and like you want to slow down sometimes but you have to let go and trust Him. He has you. He will turn you when you need to turn and He will keep you from falling. Let go and let God!

I find it fascinating that this picture is also given to us in the Scriptures.

**EZEKIEL 1:4 – 21** Then I looked, and behold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and brightness *was* all around it and radiating out of its midst like the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. <sup>5</sup>Also from within it *came* the likeness of four living creatures. And this *was* their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. <sup>6</sup>Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings. <sup>7</sup>Their legs *were* straight, and the soles of their feet *were* like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the colour of burnished bronze. <sup>8</sup>The hands of a man *were* under their wings on their sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. <sup>9</sup>Their wings touched one another. *The creatures* did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward.

<sup>10</sup>As for the likeness of their faces, *each* had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle. <sup>11</sup>Thus *were* their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two *wings* of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies. <sup>12</sup>And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went.

<sup>13</sup>As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance *was* like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. <sup>14</sup>And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning.

<sup>15</sup>Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel *was* on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. <sup>16</sup>The appearance of the wheels and their workings *was* like the colour of beryl, and all four had the same likeness.



The appearance of their workings *was*, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel. <sup>17</sup>When they moved, they went toward any one of four directions; they did not turn aside when they went.

<sup>18</sup>As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims *were* full of eyes, all around the four of them. <sup>19</sup>When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. <sup>20</sup>Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, *because* there the spirit went; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures *was* in the wheels. <sup>21</sup>When those went, *these* went; when those stood, *these* stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures *was* in the wheels.

Lastly, I want to reflect on the after death experience my grandfather had. In light of what we have learnt, I believe his encounter was a direct result of the Deception that had just taken place in his life. He loved the Lord yet because he had allowed himself to be deceived and had not sought the Lord in all his ways so that he would not be caught in a snare, the Lord in His mercy showed him after death, a summary of the condition of his earthly life.

My grandfather was falling in a tunnel of darkness over and over again. This represents the enemies hold on his life that was taking his life and plunging it into darkness, over and over again because of Deception. The fact that he came face to face with Christ in a setting of perfect gardens and peace, showed my grandfather that Christ was the only way out. Christ is perfection, He is our peace, He is everything we need. We must choose to stand before Him face to face. Never taking our eyes off of Him. He is the way, the truth and the life. There is only darkness that never ends outside of Him.

When we come face to face with the glory of the only begotten Son, our lives are perfected, as the perfect gardens, and peace, joy and light becomes ours in His Presence.

Just like my grandfather's experience, we choose to behold the Son only for moments in our lives. We choose to be plunged into darkness continually and fall away from the grace that comes through Jesus Christ. If only we would stop falling, and look upon the face of Christ, in Him there is no deceit. In Him there is eternal life.

Is this the end of those who live lukewarm? Or those who have allowed Deception in? Will we continue to be plunged into darkness while only seeing the face of the Holy One from time to time? Will this be our end until He returns?

I pray you think deeply about the consequences of our actions. Do we really know the answers? Pray beloved, pray and run to Christ with all your heart!