

What Does it Mean to be Deceived?

Nearly everyone believes that they are intelligent and that no one can pull the wool over their eyes or lead them to believe something that isn't true. We typically also find comfort in knowing that there are millions of other people that believe what we do, and we use their belief to justify that we are right in our believing the same things. Hence, we are not being deceived about anything, because, after all, "*How can millions be wrong?*"

The Scriptures show us that most are already deceived:

Ironically, if the scriptures are correct, and they always are, it means that the vast majority of all those that say they are Christian are already deceived and not following Christ or being led by the Holy Spirit. Paul tells us that there would be a great departure of Christians who would depart in droves from the teaching of Christ and the Apostles. Jesus likewise warns about this great deception (and hence, the falling away).

"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him (rapture) ... Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first ..." (2 Thess 2:1-3)

The Great Apostasy and falling away is well underway and nearly complete; however, the same hundreds of millions of people who are no longer serving and following Christ still believe they are Christians and still call themselves Christians. They are deceived just as Paul and Jesus Christ Himself warned. As of 2021, some shocking AWVI polls among "Christians" reveal that up to 95% are already deceived by false doctrines and not following Christ:

- 95% do not consider success in life to be described as consistent obedience to God.
- 91% do not believe that people are born into sin and need to be saved by Jesus Christ.
- 88% say they get their primary moral guidance from various sources other than the Bible.
- 76% contend that good people earn a place in Heaven through their good behavior.
- 76% of Christians agree that 'People should not criticize someone else's life choices.'
- 76% of Christians agree that the best way to "find yourself" is to look within, and not to "Jesus".
- 75% do not believe that God is the basis of all truth.

How did the deception start?

False Doctrines are introduced within the Church and spreads like "leaven" (Luke 13:21). Jesus Himself warns us that the deception **will arise from within the Church** (Matt 16:6). Our own pastors will introduce teachings contrary to our Lord. The apostasy is not from the outside pagan world, but rather the corruption of "Christianity" itself is from within the church. Most Christians go to church, hear what the pastor says, and accept it without questioning it. No wonder false doctrines spread so quickly and easily.

How effective will the deception be?

Jesus gives us a parable to let us know the extent of this problem in Matt 13: "*The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.*" The unintended "church" will grow out of control so that it even the "*birds of the air*" lodge in it. Christ has previously defined that the "*birds of the air*" are "Satan and his demons" (Mark 4:15); Therefore, the "Church" will be changed to such an extent that demons themselves will feel comfortable enough with it that they

will live within the Church and make it their home. Keep in mind that Christ Himself provided the interpretation to us and even adds that "*If it were possible, the very elect would be deceived*" (Matt 24:24).

The Apostle Paul also makes it crystal clear and does not mix words as he states that the source of the false doctrines will come from "seducing spirits or demons" (1 Tim 4:1). Therefore, the doctrines originate with evil spirits and are spread through the church through the pastors. *The false teachings are then readily accepted by the congregation because they no longer study God's word themselves but accept whatever the pastor says.*

We are required to test everything for ourselves!

The principle we are to follow is for us to "*Prove all things by the Word of God*" (1 Thess 5:21). That includes all ministers, teaching, preaching, doctrines, sermons, writings, opinions, and practices. Examine all by the light of the Bible. Any teaching that is not 100% supported by the Scriptures you are to reject wholly.

The real problem in trying to read and understand God's Word is that mankind has created more than 450 different English translations which have thousands of differences between themselves. So which version should you be studying if they are all saying different things?

How much easier would it be to study God's Word if an English New Testament translation existed which took each of the original Koine Greek words and applied the original meaning along with the original parsing assigned to each of those words? This is something that even the King James scholars did not do because of the constraints placed on them by King James, their lack of knowledge of Greek, and their time constraints. ***The Pure Word*** is a New Testament reference that does just that! It is the perfect resource that every Christian should have to dive into God's Word to "*Prove all things by the Word of God*" (1 Thess 5:21) as a Berean (Acts 17:11).

The Pure Word is a Resource All Christians Must Have!

The Pure Word is a word-by-word translation from the Textus Receptus Koine Greek (the exact same text that the 1611 KJV scribes used) to English and it also incorporated the original Greek Parsings which the King James scholars completely ignored because they didn't understand them. Don't get me wrong - The King James Version is an amazing translation, but the scribes didn't go far enough because they simply couldn't because of lack of knowledge. At the time of the 1600's no one understood the majority of the Koine Greek root words used in the New Testament nor did they understand nor use the Greek parsings. It took another 260 YEARS before the Greek words were separated into their root components which was published by Strong in 1890. Without identifying the root words, the meanings they assigned to words in different verses constantly varied and had little to do with the true meaning of the text.

Not only that, but the scribes had no clear idea of what the Greek parsings were that were assigned to over 115,000 of the words (of the 140,745 total words). The purpose of the parsings is to provide text that could not be misinterpreted which then resulted in a crystal-clear message. Since they didn't use the parsings, the context and meaning of the English words they assigned constantly varied between verses and that gave rise to hundreds of denominations and disagreements which fragmented Christianity we see today. Their own letter to King James clearly states their frustration and their limitations in not knowing the words and their inconsistency in the final English text and they chalk it up to their "creative freedom or liberty". It wasn't until 260 years after the King James Version was compiled that the parsings of each of the 115,000 words were clarified and released in 1894 by Dr. Scrivener using upwards of 100 scholars spending decades of work on the task.

The Pure Word has taken each of the 5,624 Koine Greek root words and took the single primary meaning at the time of Christ of each word and directly substituted it into each use of the same root word. In addition, the precise parsings of each of the 115,000 words that were mostly ignored by the KJV scribes and nearly all scholars since,

was applied to each word. This process removed all known discrepancies and provided a clarity of meaning that was never before possible.

I would strongly suggest that every Christian obtain a copy of ***The Pure Word*** and use it alongside your favorite Bible version to see the original meanings and open your eyes like never before. I humbly wouldn't even say it was a translation as verses were not "translated", but a Pure extraction from the Greek into English using the original meaning of each root word as closely as possible as it existed at the time of Jesus Christ and the Apostles along with the original parsings applied to each word.

May our Lord Bless you and lead you into a deeper understanding and relationship with Him,