

# Be Encouraged The Great Deceiver

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Reading: [John 8:44-47](#)

Text: [2 Corinthians 11:12-15](#)

## Introduction:

1. Satan uses everything to deceive us into thinking God's way is not the best.
2. Remember back in the Garden of Eden? He deceived the woman:
  - a. [Genesis 3:4-5](#)—the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.
  - b. [Genesis 3:6](#)—So when the woman saw that the tree was a) good for food, that it was b) pleasant to the eyes, and a tree c) desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate.
  - c. Compare [1 John 2:16](#)

## #1 He Deceives Us With Feelings (Emotions)

1. [Proverbs 14:12](#)—There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.
2. “It can't be wrong when it FEELS so right!” Or can it?
3. If left up to us, nothing would be wrong.
4. [Judges 17:5-6](#)—The man Micah had a shrine, and made an ephod and household idols; and he consecrated one of his sons, who became his priest. In those days there was no king in Israel; *everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*
5. Whose opinion makes adultery, murder or stealing wrong for everyone? GOD'S!

## #2 He Deceives Us With Traditions (Handed Down)

1. [Matthew 15:1-9](#)—He answered and said to them, “Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?”
2. We have been doing this for 100 years! So, when did God authorize it?
3. **Note:** All traditions are NOT deceiving. Just those which try to change or replace God's will.

## #3 He Deceives Us With Church Practice

1. [Acts 9:14](#) *Saul* had authority from the chief priests to bind all who call...
  - a. He authorized Stephen's stoning.
  - b. He persecuted and killed Christians!
2. What our church does DOESN'T determine what is right!
  - a. “My church says it's okay to have instrumental Music”
  - b. “My church says it's okay to take the Lord's supper once a quarter.”
  - c. “My church says it's okay to baptize babies, or not baptize at all!”
  - d. [Matthew 28:18](#)—who was given God's authority? JESUS!

## #4 He Deceives Us With Multitudes

1. When has it ever been right because “Everyone else is doing it?”
2. [Matthew 7:13-14](#)—“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”
3. Most people are going to be lost! Don't follow the crowd!

## #5 He Deceives Us With Modern Prophets

1. [1 John 4:1](#)—Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but *test the spirits*, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.
2. How do you test the spirits?
3. [1 John 4:6](#)—We are of God. He who knows God hears *us* (the apostles); he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.
4. [Galatians 1:7-8](#)—...there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

## #6 He Deceives Us With The Old Covenant

1. [Hebrews 8:6-13](#)
2. A direct quote from [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)
3. “The Old Testament has Instrumental Music in it!”
4. Circumcision was for babies! Why not baptism?
5. [John 6:45](#)—“It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.”

## Conclusion:

1. [1 Timothy 3:13-17](#)—But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, 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. All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2. The evil men and impostors come from Satan! Don't believe them! Don't believe Him! Believe Jesus and obey HIS word.
3. [Mark 16:16](#)—He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.”