

Sound Doctrine
in
The Last Days



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One of the signs which demonstrate that we are indeed in the last days is:

(2Pe 3:1) This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

(2Pe 3:2) That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior:

(2Pe 3:3) **Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,**

Throughout scriptures we are warned of false Christs (people professing to be disciples who are not), false preachers, teachers and prophets who walk after the flesh preaching and teaching the doctrines of men.

And we are warned specifically about those who have a form of Godliness and deny the power thereof (2Tim 3:5)

Now I believe that not all of these are evil people they are simply deceived. They believe they know the truth but believe a lie. They believe that they are filled with light but the question which needs to be asked, even of ourselves is, how great is that darkness (*Mat 6:23*). How great is our own deception?

Brothers and Sisters these are the days when we must, more than ever before, keep watch and pray for spiritual discernment. We must be able to identify the wolf in sheep's clothing to keep safe.

Not long ago while meditating on the idea of wolves in sheep's clothing it came to mind that this can also be viewed as an allegory meaning that Satan is the wolf who has gotten into the sheep. That is to say that he has gotten into their heads (figuratively speaking) and has effected their minds.

I thought about Jesus rebuke of Satan when he began to use Peter to dissuade Him from doing what He had to do. How the enemy of Christ and of man had again gotten into the head of Peter causing him to fear and doubt.

Peter loved the Lord without question, and said what he said to protect Jesus. What he said was heartfelt and genuine. He did not want Jesus be taken captive or to die. He did not even know that the enemy was using him to speak through. But Jesus knew because He discerned it.

Disciples of Jesus Christ are likewise given the gift of spiritual discernment (1Cor 12:10) so that we can follow the instructions of the apostle John who said to "try the spirits weather they are of God" (1Jon 4:1)

Now let me ask you this question here:

If you were Satan what single doctrine would you place under attack to defeat the body of Christ?

Personally, knowing what I know about scriptures, which albeit is far less than Satan knows, I would attack the doctrine of grace and I would do so by trying to place people under the yoke of bondage that is the law!

Why?

Because there is only one way by which one can fall from grace:

(Gal 5:2) Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing.

(Gal 5:3) For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

(Gal 5:4) Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. (*Justified - to render (that is, show or regard as) just or innocent.*)

You see it is by grace that we are saved through faith in the name and the finished work of Jesus Christ (Eph 2:8) not by the workings of law.

(Rom 4:1) What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?

(Rom 4:2) For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath *whereof* to glory; but not before God.

(Rom 4:3) For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

(Rom 4:4) Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of **debt**.

(Rom 4:5) But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for **righteousness**.

Now there are some, even many, within the body of Christ who actually believe that they are the ones, that they are of the few who will enter into the kingdom, and they believe so because they have been deceived.

Some of these believe that they are among the few who have been predestined to enter into the kingdom.

There are others who believe that they are saved by grace but that to keep that grace one must obey the law.

In any event these have been deceived because they have become prideful and self-righteous and have forgotten that the enemy is a liar and that he is a deceiver and the most subtle of all beasts.

These are beguiled, as was Eve, and they unknowingly snare others with the same deception with which they themselves were snared.

They come as angels of light, believing that they are walking in the light, but they are really walking in darkness, just as the Jews who believed that they were the children of the light, but Jesus came unto them to show them that they were in error. (*Mat 15:24*)

The Light of the World came into the world to show them the darkness that was within them!

Today it is that same light working within us and through us which destroys the darkness through the gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit!

We can not rely on our natural eyes to see, natural ears to hear or on our natural minds to understand.

If we do we will be deceived by the enemy and led away from the truth.

For ages people have been led away from the truth because they have not proved the spirits which proclaim the doctrines of men and demons and it is no different today.

In fact scriptures tell us that this will increase in the last days to epic proportions.

Now I say all of that Brothers and Sisters to say this:

Over the past decade there has been a re-emergence of a doctrine (**a spirit**) that was born in the 1940's which had gained some traction during the 1970s called "The Way".

This doctrine, from all outward appearances, seems to be in line, down the line, with the doctrines of Christ but they, among other things, denounce the trinitarian point of view and subsequently that Jesus Christ was God incarnate.

These people stress "doing" rather than what has been "done" through the finished work of Christ. They also tend to minimize the spiritual life, emphasize the intellectual, and try to lead the unlearned astray with their false doctrines by appealing to their carnal minds.

One of the doctrines of these people is called "The Theology of Paul"!

The basic tenets of this doctrine are:

- 1) Paul was not an apostle and that he created his own doctrine.
- 2) The simple gospel (good news), as we know it, was a creation of Paul.
- 3) That the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke teach a different gospel than the writings of Paul and that John's writings are closer to what Paul taught (subsequently minimizing John's writings (other than the words of Jesus) as well as Paul's.
- 4) That Christianity began to fall away from sound doctrine when it began to move away from it's "Jewish Roots" after the destruction of Jerusalem. (the ideology that is the foundation of the later formed Hebrew Roots Movement)

Now when you step back and observe all of this macroscopically you can see that what is going on here is a covert attempt to completely destroy the new testament!

By discrediting Paul 2/3rds of the new testament is gone. By discrediting John the book of Revelation, the only book in the bible which promises a blessing is promised to the reader, is gone as well.

What is left?

The books of the old testament, and the gospels, which are, for all intents and purposes, old testament books insomuch as the events recorded therein took place under the dispensation of the law, that were written some 30 to 60 years after Christ walked the earth under the new covenant during the dispensation of grace.

Now here is where the deception comes into play!

These people use manipulation to pervert the sayings and teachings of our Lord to deceive and divide the church while showing a form of Godliness by putting on the cover of Christ.

They say that only the words of Christ are relevant and that all other scriptures are less than authoritative.

Now just as Satan beguiled Eve by using the tactic of half truths, these people have been deceived and deceive others using the same tactic!

Of course the words of Jesus, the Word of God, are the absolute authority within holy scriptures, but wasn't it Jesus speaking through the old testament prophets?

Was it not Jesus speaking through His apostles under the new covenant, in the new testament scriptures, through the Holy Spirit?

Does Jesus not speak through His disciples today through that self same Holy Spirit?

According to these people, albeit not said plainly, Jesus basically stopped speaking after He left this world and that the only authority there is are those words spoken by Jesus himself as recorded within the gospels.

There are however a number of flies in the ointment that these people have no rebuttal for:

1) (Joh 16:12) I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

(Joh 16:13) Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

(Joh 16:14) He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

When did the Spirit of Truth come?

Jesus himself proclaims that He had MANY things yet to say to His disciples that He is not going to speak at that time because they could not bear them. They could lift them up, they could not handle them, they could not understand them.

BUT when the Holy Spirit comes He will guide them unto ALL TRUTH and

WATCH THIS: “for He shall not speak of Himself BUT whatsoever He shall hear shall He speak AND He will show you things to come!

What does that mean?

**Who is the Holy Spirit going to hear and who's word is He going to speak?
The Word of Truth, Jesus Christ!**

Now how can it be that only the recorded words of Jesus within the gospels are the only authority words within Christianity when Jesus himself said that He had more to say after He left this world?

These people have no response and will not even address this scripture!

What they will do is try to take your attention off of this truth and draw you into a rabbit hole of scriptures taken totally out of context or further expound on their false doctrine, to confuse you.

This is a tactic employed by many cults and it can be just as effective today as it was when used against Eve in the garden!

So what can we do to protect and defend ourselves against such people?

1) ALWAYS pray for spiritual knowledge, wisdom and discernment before reading or studying, or listening to the preaching of the word of God!

2) Know What Scriptures Say

Yes the sayings and teachings of Christ take authority over all but we must know and understand what He is saying within the context of who He is saying them to and when He is saying them in order to understand them. Context, Context, Context. We can only be misled if we are uninformed!

Our Lord Jesus tells us that we abide in Him when His word abides in us. This means that we need to open the book and read the words within it so that we can receive the spirit of His words, and His words are spoken unto us by the apostles, through the Holy Spirit, through the epistles.

ALWAYS remember that Jesus is the Word of God made flesh and that He only speaks what the Father commands Him to speak (John 12:49) and the Holy Spirit likewise only speaks what He hears Jesus speak, and that Jesus said His sheep know His voice and he knows them and they follow Him.

To follow Jesus today we must follow the unction of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that He (the Holy Spirit) will teach us all things, guide us unto all truth, testify of Him, speak on His behalf, and among other things, show us things to come.

To deny the authority of the epistles as scriptures (holy Writs), to deny the authority of Paul's teachings (which came from Jesus himself), to deny the ministry of the Holy Spirit, to deny the Godhead (trinity), to deny that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh, is nothing less than heresy.

(Mat 10:32) Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

(Mat 10:33) But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

To deny Jesus is to deny who He is:

(Joh 14:8) Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.

(Joh 14:9) Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?

(Joh 14:10) Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

(Joh 8:58) Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am**.

(Joh 10:30) I and *my* Father are one.

(1Ti 3:16) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

Therefore the first test in proving these spirits is to ask them if Jesus of Nazareth was God the Father manifest in the flesh and if the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are One!

If they say yes you will know how to proceed from there because Jesus will speak to you through the Holy Spirit.

ALWAYS REMEMBER

(Pro 23:6) Eat thou not the bread of *him that hath* an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats:

(Pro 23:7) For as he thinketh in his heart, so *is* he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart *is* not with thee.

(Pro 23:8) The morsel *which* thou hast eaten shalt thou vomit up, and lose thy sweet words.

In closing Brothers and Sisters,

(1Jn 2:26) These *things* have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.

(1Jn 2:27) But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. Amen & Amen!

Be Blessed!