

IDENTIFYING SPIRITUAL SEDUCTIONS AND DECEPTIONS – 1 TIMOTHY 4:1-6, 7a

Today's text bridges the halfway mark leading us into the second part of this letter. Five years earlier the apostle Paul _____ the Ephesian pastors that grievous wolves would enter in among them not sparing the flock, speaking perverse things to draw away disciples unto themselves (Acts 20:29-30). This was an alarm the apostle sounded many times throughout his epistles, concerned that apostasy and a falling away from the true faith would result. Although the assaults would come from prideful _____, the underlying force is satanic powers of _____ seducing believers to reject good doctrine and adopt lies. Here Paul again alerts the Ephesians through his inspired words to Timothy, admonishing him to put the brethren in remembrance of these things.

1. The Spirit of God _____ reveals evil issues – 1 Timothy 4:1

a. He *speaketh expressly*

- Plain speech that is easily understood
- Latter times – It seems to be the time frame spanning the entirety of church history degenerating into the accepted evil behaviour we witness today – Acts 20:28; 2 Ti. 3:1-9

b. Seducing spirits – Gen. 3:1-5, 13; Prov. 5:3-21; 7:5-27; 2 Cor. 11:3, 13-15; 2 Ti. 3:13; Rev. 2:20-24; 17:1-6

- Seducing – something that attracts, especially with the promise of _____ or reward
 Anything and everything that leads a person away from God and the word(s) of God such as: arrogance and _____ through false doctrines, false religions, knowledge and education, power, fame, fortune, sexual immorality, self-centeredness, fostered bitterness, wrath, and vengeance – 1 Jo. 2:16
- Devilish (_____) spirits that entice the weak and prideful
- A doctrinal illustration from an adulterous seductress – Prov. 5:3-6; 7:1-23; Rev. 2:20-24; 17:1-6
 She represents false religions, false doctrines, and everything pridefully enticing

c. Doctrines of devils – 1 Cor. 10:19-20; 2 Peter 2:1

- Any and all doctrines that are in opposition to the word and words of God

Some examples of these devilish doctrines:

Jesus Christ was a mere man and not God

Jesus Christ alone is not sufficient for eternal life nor did he rise up bodily from the grave

There is no God or eternal life, we all just die and cease to exist

There are many gods and many Christs and many ways that lead to eternal life

You must perform more good works than bad to justify yourself before God

You can lose your salvation after sincerely receiving Christ
Speaking in tongues is evidence that you have received the Holy Ghost
Signs and wonders are a *modern* phenomena bearing witness of apostolic authority *today*
Baptism by immersion in water saves your soul and completes your salvation through Christ
The RCC is the only true church and the only legitimate disseminator of truth from God
A RC priest can turn bread and wine into the actual body and blood of Jesus Christ
Mary is the mediatrix between God and mankind
Idols and icons are aids in worship of gods or God
Mohamed is a prophet and the Koran usurps the Holy Bible
Joseph Smith is a prophet and his writings and religion is the way to truth and salvation
The Creator made millions of mistakes with people assigning them the wrong gender in the womb
Homosexuality and Lesbianism is just as normal as heterosexuality
The Holy Bible is not true but make-believe fairy tales written by deceptive Jews and charlatans
The nation of Israel has been replaced by the *church* (RCC, Mormons, and Covenant Theologists)
There is no such thing as the devil or Satan
There is no creator, only natural evolution stemming from the big bang
Human reasoning, science, and education are superior to the silly writings in the Bible
Etc., etc., etc.

2. The lies being propagated – 1 Timothy 4:2-3, 7a

a. Hypocrisy – verse 2

- Lies surrounding double-standards

These hypocrites have their conscience seared with a hot iron
They speak out of both sides of their mouth
They do not practice what they preach

b. Forbidding to marry – verse 3a

- Marriage is good and honorable – Heb. 13:4; 1 Cor. 7:2, 9, 28a

Some _____ not to be married for the Lord and his work's sake – Ro. 14:6
These same folks will have the gift of singleness permanently or temporarily – 1 Cor. 7:7-8

- Lies surrounding the issues of celibacy – forbidding it

Roman Catholic priests and nuns
Hindu holy men and women in later stages of life
Jainist priests of India
Buddhist monks

c. Commanding to abstain from meats – verse 3b

- All varieties of foods are approved for human consumption – 1 Ti. 4:3c-4; Gen. 9:3; 1 Cor. 8:4, 8
Some _____ not to eat certain things for the Lord and his work's sake – Ro. 14:6; 1 Cor. 8:9-13
- Lies surrounding the issues of diet – commanding it
 - Roman Catholicism
 - Orthodoxism
 - Hinduism
 - Jainism
 - Buddhism
 - Islam
 - Judaism

d. Profane and old wives fables – verse 7a

- Lies surrounding anti-biblical legends, myths, superstitions and unprovable stories

3. Crucial things to remember – 1 Timothy 3c-7a

a. Do _____ entertain the teachers and promoters of such doctrines and hypocrisies

- Their words are hypocritical lies
- Their doctrines are seducing
- Their doctrines are of the devil

b. Marriage and meats are good – verses 3b-4

- Receive them with thanksgiving
- They are sanctified by the word of God and prayer

c. Your best defense against these lies – verse 3c

- Be a good _____
Put the brethren in remembrance of all these things
- _____ what the Bible says
- _____ what the Bible says