

How is the deceitfulness of the world exposed in the Word of God?

2 Timothy 3:1-5: "Know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!"

The reason why:

1 Corinthians 2:14: "The natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned."

Romans 8:7: "The carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be."

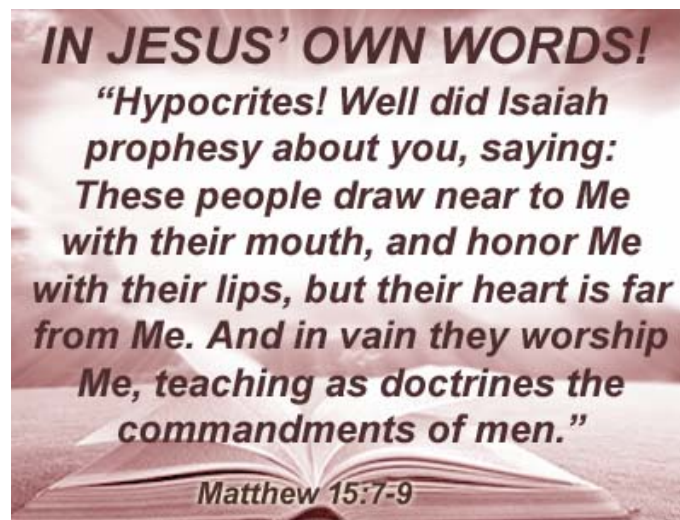
What's more?

Isaiah 55:8-9: "My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

Therefore:

1 John 5:20: "We know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."

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In Jesus' own words, how did He describe the world we live in right now?

Parable in Matthew 13:38-42: "The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*. The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."

John 8:44: "You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it."

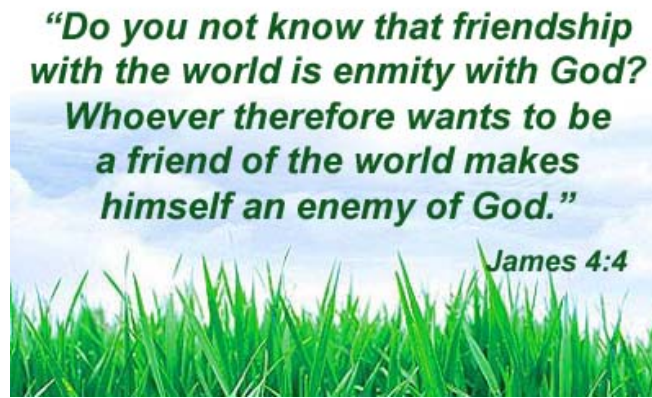
As such:

Matthew 6:24: "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other."

Therefore the warning:

Matthew 7:13: "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."

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What are the consequences to expect for so-called believers who follow the evil of this world?

Isaiah 5:20: "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Galatians 5:21: "I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

As such:

1 Corinthians 3:16-17: "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him."

Why?

Romans 8:7-8: "Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

And as Jesus clearly said:

Matthew 5:18: "Not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved."

What's more?

Hebrews 4:13: "There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account."

Therefore:

Revelation 21:8: "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."

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How must we live as believers so we truly abide in Christ?

Matthew 6:19-21, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Romans 12:2, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Colossians 3:17, "And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Ephesians 4:23-24, "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness."

Why?

2 Corinthians 5:17, "If anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

What's more?

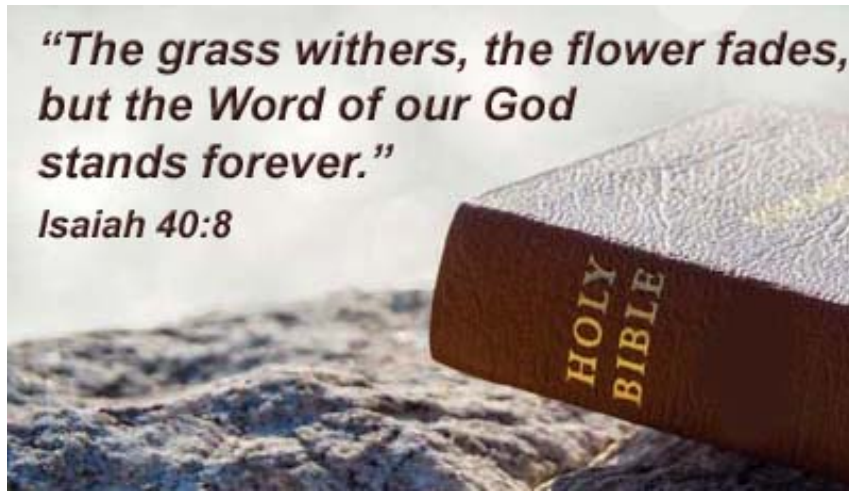
1 Peter 4:1, "Since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin."

Matthew 24:44, "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming."

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***“The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God
stands forever.”***

Isaiah 40:8



Who is our only true and secure source of truth?

In Jesus' own words:

John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 6:63, "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life."

Matthew 4:4, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."

Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."

The reason why:

2 Timothy 3:16-17, "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."

Hebrews 4:12, "The Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Therefore:

Psalms 1:1-2, "Blessed *is* the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night."

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“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.”

Colossians 2:8

How watchful must we be so we are not deceived by the evil spirits of this world?

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.”

Ephesians 5:6, “Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.”

As such:

2 Corinthians 4:3-4, “Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”

What’s more?

Revelation 21:8, “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.”

Therefore:

Galatians 6:7-8, “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 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.”

Thus:

James 1:22, “Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

How is that working for me right now?

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How must we stand firm by faith so we truly abide in Christ?

Ephesians 6:11, "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

Why?

Ephesians 6:12, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly places."

As such:

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."

The reason Jesus said:

John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Therefore:

Matthew 5:10, "Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

James 1:12, "Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

As a result:

Philippians 4:7: "The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

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