

2 Corinthians 11:1-15 "Satan In Disguise"

Satan's Disguises:

1. A dragon
Revelation 12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, **fiery red dragon** having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.
Revelation 12:7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,
Revelation 20:2 He laid hold of **the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan**, and bound him for a thousand years;
1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because **your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion**, seeking whom he may devour.
Matthew 13:36-40
36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."
37 He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.
38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*.
39 **The enemy who sowed them is the devil**, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels.
40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.
5. An angel of light
6. A prince
2 Cor. 11:14
John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now **the ruler of this world** will be cast out.
Ephesians 2:2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

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2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

- 9** The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, **with all power, signs, and lying wonders**,
10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
11 And for this reason **God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie**,
12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.
- Paul employed **three terms** to describe the supernatural power this man will demonstrate.

¹Willmington, H. L. (1987). *Willmington's book of Bible lists*. Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale House.

- **Miracles:** (*dynamei*) emphasizes the inherent power behind the works he will perform.
- **Signs** refers to the fact that they will have significance.
- **Wonders:** (*terasim*) indicates the attitude of awe that they will evoke when people behold them.
 - He will, in short, perform such powerful miracles that it will be evident to all that he has supernatural power, and people will stand in awe of him. ²
- **Used to describe the work of Christ:**

Acts 2:22 - "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—
- **Used to describe the work of the church:**

Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?
- **Remember that Lucifer is a liar:**

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.
- **Lying Wonders:**

Rev. 13: 13-15 ¹³He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. ¹⁴**And he deceives** those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. ¹⁵He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.
- **Deception - the key word here!**

Matt 24: 4,5, 11-12, 23-27 4 Times Jesus says: "Don't be deceived!"
⁴And Jesus answered and said to them: "**Take heed that no one deceives you.**" ⁵For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' **and will deceive many.**
¹¹"Then many false prophets will rise up **and deceive many.** ¹²"And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³"But he who endures to the end shall be saved.
²³"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here *is* the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe *it*.
²⁴"For false christs and false prophets will rise and **show great signs and wonders to deceive**, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵"See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶"Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, *He is* in the inner rooms!' do not believe *it*. ²⁷"For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

²Walvoord, John F., and Zuck, Roy B., *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, (Wheaton, Illinois: Scripture Press Publications, Inc.) 1983, 1985.

2 Thessalonians 2:11 And for this reason God will send them **strong delusion**, that they should believe the lie,

“strong” { en-erg’-i-ah} AV - working 4, effectual working 2, operation 1, strong 1; 8

1) working, efficiency

1a) **in the NT used only of superhuman power**, whether of God or of the Devil.

“delusion.” { plan’-ay} AV - error 7, to deceive 1, deceit 1, delusion 1; 10

1) a wandering, a straying about

1a) one led astray from the right way, roams hither and thither

2) metaph.

2a) mental straying

2a1) error, wrong opinion relative to morals or religion

2b) error which shows itself in action, a wrong mode of acting

2c) error, that which leads into error, deceit or fraud. 3

- **“the lie”** - not just any lie, a specific lie that is all pervading. No escape (possible?) from this lie.

Romans 1: 24 - 25 ²⁴Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵**who exchanged the truth of God for the lie**, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

1 John 2:21 - 27 ²¹I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. ²²**Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.**

²³Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

²⁴Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life. ²⁶**These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.** ²⁷But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

1 Oh, that you would bear with me in a little folly—and indeed you do bear with me.

2 For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

1 Timothy 4:1-3

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that **in latter times** some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,

³Enhanced Strong's Lexicon, (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.) 1995.

3 forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

Galatians 1:6-9

6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,

7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 **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.**

9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

5 For I consider that I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles.

6 Even though *I am* untrained in speech, yet *I am* not in knowledge.

But we have been thoroughly manifested among you in all things.

7 Did I commit sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because I preached the gospel of God to you free of charge?

8 I robbed other churches, taking wages *from them* to minister to you.

9 And when I was present with you, and in need, I was a burden to no one, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep *myself*.

10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no one shall stop me from this boasting in the regions of Achaia.

11 Why? Because I do not love you? God knows!

12 But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast.

13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

14 And no wonder! **For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.**

15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

- Paul is again answering charges against him at this young church
- False Apostles were already invading much of the young churches around the Mediterranean.
- Corinth had begun to believe their lies
 - Paul was unqualified to be an Apostle
 - Untrained in oratory
 - Didn't expect an honorarium – you get what you pay for?
 - He didn't have a well developed resume and letters of recommendation from "important" people.

2 Corinthians 2:17 For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ.