

Deceiving Spirits

Purpose: to make people aware of deceiving spirits and to warn not to be deceived by them.

Do evil spirits actually exist?

Yes!

What do they do?

Let's see!

Paul warns that in these last days there will be some who will leave the faith (in Jesus Christ). They will be fooled, seduced, and devote themselves to two things:

- Deceiving spirits
- Doctrines taught by demons

1Ti 4:1 - Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, **giving heed** to **deceiving spirits** and doctrines of demons,

What does this mean: "...giving heed..."? What is meant by deceiving spirits? How are they fooled?

Giving heed (Greek *prosechō*) – to hold to, bring near, apply the mind to a thing, to follow, be addicted to, be occupied with.

This is how others translate this phrase:

- ...devoting themselves...
- ...obeying...
- ...being fooled...
- ...following...
- ...chasing after

Deceiving spirits – (Greek *planos*) – wandering, roving, misleading, impostor, seducer.

This is how others translate it:

- ...giving their minds to spirits of deceit...
- ...they will be fooled by evil spirits...
- ...they will obey spirits that tell lies.
- ...devoting themselves to deceitful spirits...
- ...they will obey lying spirits...
- ...they will follow spirits that deceive...
- ...some are going to give up on the faith and chase after demonic illusions...
- ...they will follow spirits that will fool them.
- ...devoting themselves to spirits of deception...

So, there are some who will hold to, bring near, apply their mind to, follow, be addicted to and be occupied with wandering, roving, misleading, deceiving, seducing spirits.

- There are spirits who are trying to seduce and mislead you.
- Some people are directly under the influence of spirits.

Examples:

Satan himself is a deceiving spirit:

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

Gen 3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;

Gen 3:3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

Gen 3:4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

Gen 3:5 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."

Gen 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3:13 - And the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Satan is the father, and all who are deceived by him are his children:

Joh 8:41 You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God."

Joh 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.

Joh 8:43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.

Joh 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.

2Th 2:9 - The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

2Th 2:10 - and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

God is in control of what spirits can do:

Job 1:6 - Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.

Job 1:7 - And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

Job 1:8 - Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"

Job 1:9 - So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

Job 1:10 - Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

Job 1:11 - But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

Job 1:12 - And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

1Ki 22:19 - Then Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left.

1Ki 22:20 - And the LORD said, 'Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner.

1Ki 22:21 - Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, and said, 'I will persuade him.'

1Ki 22:22 - The LORD said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the LORD said, 'You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.'

1Ki 22:23 - Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the LORD has declared disaster against you."

There is more deception to come!

Rev 13:11 - Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

Rev 13:12 - And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

Rev 13:13 - He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

Rev 13:14 - 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.

Rev 13:15 - He 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.

Rev 13:16 - He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,

Rev 13:17 - and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Rev 13:18 - Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

Why are we considering this?

Because you need to know that which is happening around you.

Because you must be careful not to be deceived!