

Are You Deceived? How Can You Tell?

Written by Administrator

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There always were and still are many Christian churches. Now virtually each church claims to hold monopoly on the Truth. This is especially true of those organisations commonly referred to as “cults”. Jehovah’s Witnesses for example, maintain that their organisation is the only true organisation. They maintain that they hold monopoly on the Truth and alone preach the Truth. They refer to their organisation as “THEOCRATIC ORGANISATION.” Theocratic Organisation is an organisation ruled by THEOS. Theos in Greek means GOD. In other words, Jehovah’s Witnesses claim that they are GOD’S ORGANISATION and the WITNESSES OF JEHOVAH.

On the other hand we have Mormons who claim that their prophet Joseph Smith restored the TRUE GOSPEL and the TRUE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST. They call themselves SAINTS OF THE LATTER DAY. Now Mormons believe and maintain that they are the only true organisation in the world. They insist that Joseph Smith actually restored all the lost Truth and that they now alone hold monopoly on the Truth. We also have Christadelphians who because of some peculiar doctrines they believe in and teach, claim to be the only true church. They refer to themselves as “BROTHERS OF CHRIST” and believe that they must stay aloof from all other churches - since they are harlots of the Apocalypse.

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There are many other churches and assemblies which maintain to hold monopoly on the Truth. This is also true of many organisations who believe in and use the sacred name YAHWEH. Some of these organisations maintain that their founders are TRUE PROPHETS. The House of Yahweh from Abilene, Texas, for example, maintains that it is the only organisation where the Truth is preached today. Yisrayl Hawkins, the founder of the organisation is believed to be one of the TWO WITNESESS of Revelation 11 - in actual fact the very spokesman of the TWO WITNESESS. Hawkins calls the House of Yahweh **THE PILLAR AND GROUND OF TRUTH.**

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There are host of other churches, assemblies and organisations who maintain that they alone preach the Truth. They insist that the only way to salvation is through their teaching and doctrines. As soon as we realise this fact it immediately becomes apparent that these organisations cannot all be right. They can all be wrong for example but they cannot all be right. This is evident from the fact that they drastically differ from each other and also ascribe each other to SATAN.

Now Jesus the Messiah was obviously aware that there was going to come a time when a great schism was going to take place in the Essene/Nazorean/Ebionite movement he established. That is why he warned his disciples and his followers in general to watch out for the false prophets. Matthew 24 verses 4 and 11 quote Jesus as saying the following:

“Watch out that no one DECEIVES you. For MANY will come in my name, claiming, I am the Messiah, yet will DECEIVE MANY...and many false prophets will appear and DECEIVE MANY PEOPLE.” □

The word “DECEPTION” means: “act or practice of concealing or misrepresenting the truth.” The misconception and misrepresentation of the facts begins in this very verse. It is commonly believed and assumed that Jesus warned against the prophets who would allegedly come and claim to be “Messiahs” themselves and will thus lead many astray. But there actually were few people since Jesus’ day either in Judaism or Christianity or in any other religion for that matter, who actually claimed that they were “Messiahs” or “Christs.” Jesus therefore could not have meant that the false prophets who he said would be MANY would actually claim to be Messiahs themselves. What did Jesus then actually mean? Put simply, MANY and he really meant MANY, would come and acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah or Christ but despite of this fact they will actually be false prophets and will deceive a great many people.

Now one of the characteristics of the FALSE PROPHETS is that they will come and

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acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah. They will very much talk about the TRUTH. But they will actually CONCEAL or MISREPRESENT the TRUTH and by doing so will actually DECEIVE MANY PEOPLE. These deceivers and false prophets are CUNNING. They do not come with horns and a pitchfork - in the way Satan is commonly depicted. They rather come in SHEEP'S CLOTHING. Matthew 7:15 quotes Jesus as saying:

“Beware of the false prophets who come to you in SHEEP'S CLOTHING, but inwardly are RAVENOUS WOLVES”.

Please note. The false prophets appear to be as gentle and as innocent as lambs. But inwardly are ravenous wolves - because their only intention is to devour you spiritually. Now this does not mean that every pastor, preacher, teacher, prophet, theologian - and call them whatever you like - is actually a RAVENOUS WOLF. That is, not all of them come to you with EVIL and MALICIOUS intention. Many have been deceived into accepting and believing the things they believe and teach. They therefore teach deception because they themselves were deceived in the first place. To them Jesus' statement recorded in Matthew 15:14 applies: “Leave them; they are blind guides. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit”.

Now naturally if your pastor or preacher is himself deceived he will also deceive you - if you listen to him and accept his teaching to be true. But there are pastors and teachers and prophets whose only intention is to DECEIVE YOU and therefore DEVOUR YOU SPIRITUALLY. But these evil and malicious teachers do not come to you with their true colours. They come to you as LAMBS. They appear to be gentle, polite and very nice people. They are charismatic leaders and their charisma appeals to you.

Deep down in their souls, says Jesus, they are RAVENOUS WOLVES - because their only aim and intention is to DECEIVE YOU, DESTROY YOU and DEPRIVE YOU OF ETERNAL LIFE. Now even Paul himself states that false teachers are cunning and you should watch out for them. In 1 Corinthians 11:13-15 Paul wrote:

“For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, MASQUERADING as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness”.

Your own Bible tells you that if your pastor or preacher or prophet appears to be as gentle as a

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lamb, and reflects charisma which appeals to you - that in itself does not prove that he or she is not a deceiver and a RAVENOUS WOLF - posing as the preacher of righteousness. There are people who claim that their pastors and preachers are not only polite and gentle but they also perform MIRACLES. Thus because of the miracles they do, these people are convinced that their preachers and pastors are really from God. But my friend, the Bible also tells us that miracles in themselves do not prove that your pastor or preacher is not a deceiver nor do they prove that they are led by the spirit of God.

Matthew 24 verse 24 quotes Jesus as saying: “

*For false Messiahs and false prophets will appear and PERFORM GREAT SIGNS AND MIRACLES to **DECEIVE** even the elect - if that were possible”.*

In Revelation 13 verses 13-14 we read about the false prophet the following:

“And he performed great miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he DECEIVED the inhabitants of the earth”.

2 Thessalonians 2:9 says:

“The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders...that DECEIVES those who are perishing”.

In the Martyrdom and Ascension of Isaiah 4 verses 4-6 we read:

“The angel, Beliar, will come in the form of that king, and with him will come all the powers of this world, and they will obey him in every wish. By his word he will cause the sun to rise by night, and the moon also he will make to appear at the sixth hour [that is, noon]...and the power of his miracles will be in every city and district, and he will set up his image before him in every

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city”.

The False Prophet will perform great signs, wonders and miracles. They however will not prove that God is with him. The magicians of Egypt were also able to turn their rods into serpents and water into blood [Exodus 7:11,22]. But they were not God’s servants but rather His enemies who were opposed to God’s Law and who practiced and taught sorcery and deception. The witch of Endor possessed miraculous power by being able to recognise King Saul even though he was in disguise. She was also able to summon the “neshamah” that is, the departed spirit of Samuel. But her miraculous power in no way demonstrated that she was the prophetess of God and that she should therefore be God’s spokeswoman and authority to be followed. Simon Magus likewise performed great miracles so that people were amazed

and believed that he was a deity in the flesh[Acts 8].

Balaam the sorcerer also possessed the ability to prophesy even foretelling the coming of Jesus. But this witch doctor also possessed **THE CHARACTERISTIC** which all the servants of Belial possess - which is the

very MARK of the false prophets

- by which alone they CAN BE IDENTIFIED as the servants of evil. This mark will become obvious a little later. There were some outstanding miracle workers in history from all walks of life and were manifested in various religions and not only in Christianity. It is beyond the scope of this article to summarise them and give proof of their miracles and genuine nature of their ability to perform signs and wonders. But no matter how great a miracle may be this in no way proves or demonstrates that they were God’s servants and that we should therefore follow their teachings and beliefs. Jesus the Messiah also acknowledged the fact that the servants of Satan will be able to perform great miracles and wonders even in his own name. Please note the following:

*“Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven...Many will say to me on that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and **perform many miracles**? Then will I tell them plainly, I never knew you. Depart from me” [Matthew 7:21-23].* □

Why will Jesus actually say that he **never knew them**? Why will he tell them to **depart from him** ? Because these people possessed the very CHARACTERISTIC AND MARK that all false prophets possess. But what is this characteristic and mark? It is the very teaching which tells you

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cunningly and in disguise to LIVE CONTRARY TO GOD'S COMMANDMENTS. Balaam the sorcerer was forced to do everything God told him to do. He was forbidden to curse Israel.

But this servant of Belial found a cunning way in which he was able to place a CURSE UPON ISRAEL. This witch doctor knew that if he could cause the Israelites to nullify and transgress but ONE OF THE COMMANDS OF GOD he would place a curse on that nation.

In Numbers 25:1-3 we read:

*“While Israel was staying in Shittim, the men began to indulge in sexual immorality with Moabite women, who invited them to sacrifices of their gods. The people ate and bowed down before these gods. So Israel joined in worshipping the **Baal Peor** [Lord of Sexual Penetration].”*

In Numbers 31:16 we are further told:

*“They were the ones **who followed Balaam's advice** and were the means of turning Israelites from Yahweh”.* □

In Revelation 2:14 we read: “

*Nevertheless, I have a few things against you. You have people there who hold to the **teaching of Balaam***

, who taught Balak to ENTICE the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality”.

□

Despite of all the prophetic knowledge and miracles Balaam was able to display, he was the very servant of Belial who possessed the VERY MARK of the FALSE PROPHET. This mark consists of **teaching against the Law of God**. In Deuteronomy 13:1-3 we read:

*“If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you **miraculous sign and wonder***

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, and if the sign or wonder of which he had spoken

takes place

, but he says *Let us follow hinder gods - the gods you have not known - and let us worship them, you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. Yahweh your God is testing you to find out whether you love Him with all your heart and with all your soul*".

Did you get that? Even if the prophet or dreamer of dreams was to perform great miraculous signs but at the same time enticed the people to do something that God forbids in His original true Law - he is not to be followed but is to be regarded as the **FALSE**

PROPHET

Therefore if your preacher or prophet performs miracles and great wonders but also teaches you that the original Law upheld by the Ebionites is nailed to the "cross" you should not listen to them since they are FALSE TEACHERS and the SERVANTS OF BELIAL. We have seen earlier that many will come on the Final Day saying to Jesus how they performed many great miracles in his name. Jesus however will tell them to

DEPART FROM HIM

because they possessed the very mark of the

FALSE PROPHETS

Please notice:

“

*I never knew you. Depart from me you who **work INIQUITY***".□

The word *iniquity* means: **lawlessness; transgression of the Law**. Sin itself is the *transgression of the Law*

1 John 3:4. These preachers and prophets have performed many miracles and wonders in the name of Jesus, God, Yahweh, Yahshua, Yeshua... But all those who practiced INIQUITY will be accursed and sentenced to the Lake of Fire!

People from all religious organisations perform some type of miracles. But these do not prove that they are all the true servants of God. Only those who teach and uphold the true Law of God are the true servants of God. Those who reject and nullify the perfect commands of God are false prophets because they teach you to disobey God and live contrary to His will expressed in His Royal Law. I am not talking about the Mosaic Law of which you read in your canonical Bible. This Law is the perverted and corrupted Law - the result of the lying pen of the scribes - as God Himself plainly stated in Jeremiah 8:8. [See NIV Bible or Good News Bible or any most other Bibles which correctly and faithfully translate the Hebrew text].

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My dear friend, are you deceived? Is your preacher or prophet a ferocious wolf disguised in sheep's clothing? Jesus said that "by their FRUITS you shall know them".

Is your preacher or prophet subtly and cunningly teaching you to do away with some of God's commandments? Does he teach you that Jesus the Messiah nailed the true Law of God to a "cross"? Does he teach you that you are accursed if you obey the Law of God? Is he teaching you that God originally prescribed the commands concerning war, slavery, polygyny, sacrifices and the eating of flesh etc.? If he **does** then most certainly he is the false prophet and the servant of Belial - regardless of how polite, gentle and kind he may appear to be and how many miraculous signs he may perform. Are you deceived? If you follow in the ways of your preacher who is teaching you to nullify and reject the perfect Law of God - then most certainly you are deceived. My sincere prayer is that God would bless your understanding so that you would be able to know His Truth and so come out of Christian deception. Few words need to be said about those who claim to see visions of God and dream dreams which they claim are given them by God.

I do not doubt that some Christians and even Jews, Muslims, and those from all faiths in this world actually see visions and dream dreams. I do not doubt that some of these dreams and visions are actually from God Himself. But this in itself does not prove that those who see these visions and dream these dreams are actually holy men and women of God. In other words, this in itself does not prove that these same people who see visions and dreams given by God are not actually deceivers and ravenous wolves in sheep's clothing. I want you to remember the fact that Baalam himself had visions and dreams of God. He encountered God on many occasions. But this fact did not make him a servant of God. Furthermore, did not Pharaoh have a dream which was given to him by God Himself? Did not Joseph actually interpret it for him? God revealed to Pharaoh that there was going to be a time when there would be no food. So Joseph interpreted the dream and then Pharaoh appointed him a governor of Egypt and lots of people were preserved alive. This dream of God which Pharaoh had did not make Pharaoh a righteous and a holy man of God. In fact, Pharaoh was a wicked king and did not even believe in or serve God. He was given this dream because God saw that he was a man that could accomplish His will.

Did not God Himself reveal to Nebuchadrezzar in a dream the future history and the four major world empires? Did not Daniel himself say that it was actually the "God of Heaven" who revealed to Nebuchadrezzar what was going to occur in the future? [Daniel 2:28]. Some agree that deceivers and servants of Belial could have dreams from God but they argue that they could not actually have visions from God. Those who argue so forget the fact that Nebuchadrezzar, even though he was a sinner and in fact condemned the three friends of

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Daniel to a cruel death - actually saw a VISION revealed to him by God Himself. After the three friends of Daniel were thrown in the fiery furnace, Nebuchadrezzar saw the FOURTH MAN in the midst of the furnace and he exclaimed that the fourth man looked like the "son of ELOHIM" [Daniel 3:25]. Nebuchadrezzar was not asleep. He was awake and in fact jumped to his feet when he witnessed the vision of God.

Therefore it follows that many will indeed come and say to Jesus that they had performed great miracles and wonders and also dreamed dreams and saw visions of God. But the same ones have all along taught that the Law of God had been nailed to a cross. They had taught that you do not have to obey the original and true Law that God gave to Moses. For this very reason Jesus will tell them to depart from him. Their miracles, visions, dreams and noble missionary works will not count on that day. Jesus will tell them to depart from him because they practiced **iniquity**

[anomia]. That is, they transgressed the Law of God. The Greek work

anomia

means "transgression of the Law", or "negation of the Law". The word "nomia" comes from the Greek word "nomos" - law - and the prefix "a" indicates "opposition to" or "negation" of the Law. Are you deceived? If you believe your preachers, pastors, prophets and miracle men who teach you that the Law is abrogated and nailed to a cross

and if you believe and trust the falsified Law of Moses which permits you to kill in war, eat animal flesh and drink alcohol, have many wives, practice slavery, etc., then you are most certainly deceived.

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