

DISTRACTIONS, LIES AND DECEIT

4/9/11

There's an old saying that you should never discuss sex, politics or religion in polite company. However, that has proven to be a distraction, to try and stop people talking about God. The observable truth is, that politics and sex are frequently the subject of discussion and a quick look in any of the media will reveal that these topics are often in the headlines. There is only one topic that this world wants to avoid and that is religion: particularly Christianity... everything else it seems, is a distraction to keep people away from the true knowledge of God.

This is the origin of the deceit that is blinding this world from God's truth.

GEN 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **17** But of the tree of the **knowledge of good and evil** (of self governance), thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. *If God governs you will live forever... if not you will die.*

GEN 3:1 Now the serpent was more **subtil** (crafty) than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? *First comes the distraction.*

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. *Not even allowed to touch (consider) the fruit.*

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: *Then comes the lie.*

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. *All lies bear their own fruit, but it is never what is promised, because it is a lie!!*

6 And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. *Then comes the deceit that led to their death and the problems that we all now face.*

There are numerous scriptural warnings to the church about distractions, lies and deceit.

***2TIM 1:13** Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. *It takes specific disciplines and commitments to follow God's ways.*

14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

***2TIM 3:15** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. *The fruit of tree of life (anointing), makes this possible.*

***1COR 15:33** Be not deceived: **evil communications** (way of life) **corrupt good manners** (God's purposes).

Common distractions for church members are... lack of time, work commitments, family activities, etc. The bible says...

MAT 6:33 But **seek ye first** the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. *Do God's will and he will always give you better than what you would have had by forsaking his fellowship and servitude; for the sake of personal needs and perceived family loyalties. The secret of all these things is to find the balance... the true balance contains no distractions.*

God warns the world about their willing failure to identify and follow his directions.

1COR 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. *No one wants to talk or think about God... soon, he will force them to.*

We often see disasters such as cyclones, volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis, tornados and the death and destruction that come with them. However, Peter tells us that God's judgment is coming upon our earth that makes all these other disasters seem irrelevant. **2PET 3:10** But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. *Who is talking about this?*

Atheists and agnostics will be surprised to learn that we will be judged and we will reap what we have sown. **GAL 6:7** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. *Who is talking about this?*

This is your primary concern... don't be distracted by anything.

MAR 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

God offers proof... not theory. The anointing of the spirit supernaturally equips us for everything. Signs, miracles and wonders offer us a compelling alternative to distractions, lies and deceit.