

God's Tool of Deception – Part III

God Uses deception to:

III. To develop our _____ – I Samuel 28:10 – 12.

- A. When we choose to use deception, it reveals a great deal about our _____.
1. Remember, earlier Saul had _____ all witch craft and witches from Israel - I Sam. 28:3
 2. Now he is in trouble, trouble of his own _____ and God is not talking to King Saul – I Sam. 28:6.
 3. So, he decides to _____ himself and consult with a witch which he needs to disguise himself.
 4. God sends Samuel back to _____ King Saul – I Samuel 28:15 – 17.
- B. And her question in verse 12 is, “Why hast thou deceived me?”
- C. Remembering Saul’s motive to rid the land of witch craft and witches should have been _____!
1. This begs an important question for us to ponder.
 - a. What action have we committed that _____ the unsaved asking, “That’s a Christian?”
 - b. What attitudes have we _____ that leaves the unsaved asking - “That’s a Christian?”
 - c. We see here the desperation of Saul which is a characteristic of those who have forfeited the right to walk with God or to be lead of the Lord. (There is an emptiness.)
 2. When we have reached such a place in our lives where deception or guile is no big deal, then we aren’t all that _____ in our dealings with others.
 - a. Do we skip church because we have some project or place, we want to go? In order to do so we have to make some _____ or reasoning like the world would do?
 - b. The same goes when we lie/deceive in order to get out of a ticket or to help someone.
 - c. Do we lie or deceive our employer when _____ out for the day?
 3. Perhaps we are not as noble or as strong _____ as we may think.
 - a. The witch of Endor asked her question of Saul in disbelief concerning a man of his character.
 - b. One can certainly entertain the idea here that she is stating, “I’m a witch, lost, but I expected more from you.”
- D. When we have not _____ a strong relationship with the Lord our God, it causes,
1. A sense we can’t trust God in telling the truth, so we use deception!
 2. We are also stating the other person or persons aren’t _____ of knowing the truth, so we deceive them!

God Uses deception to:

IV. To teach us to _____ – II Samuel 19:24 – 27.

- A. This is about how easily the best of us can get caught up in deceiving others as Ziba.
1. Who is Ziba? Ziba is appointed by King David to oversee Mephibosheth’s inheritance.
 - 2 David wants to honor his best friend Jonathan, by taking care of any of Jonathan’s remaining family. (II Kings 9:2 – 11)

3. Ziba _____ Mephibosheth – II Kings 16:1 – 4, and God reveals the _____ account –
II Kings 19:24-27

B. King David appears to initially believe Ziba's account and so David divides the land.

1. Because Mephibosheth was innocent, God takes his side and reveals the truth.

2. So, what is the point? Make sure you are _____ close to God or we will find ourselves being easily deceived.

a. Especially in spiritual and biblical matters. God has given us His preserved Word so we would not be easily _____, and know how wrong it is to deceive!

b. I John 4:1 – 6. Notice the small "s" on spirit, verse 1, then in verse 2.

c. Titus 1:10 & 2 John verses 7 & 8. II Corinthians 11:13 – 15.

C. Early on in Solomon's life, Solomon was known for his wisdom – I Kings 10:1 – 13.

1. The first test of his divine wisdom – I Kings 3:16 – 28.

2. God can give us unprecedented wisdom when we are walking close by His side. James 1:5.

D. So, how is Satan going to deceive million & millions in the world? Same way he does today.

(II Corinthians 4:4) (Romans 20:2 & 3)

E. Our wisdom is based upon the character of walk and the degree of our walk with Christ daily.

F. So, why would God allow us to be deceived? To reveal that our walk with Christ is perhaps, not as close we may think.