The Mystery of Deception

[Part Four]

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Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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Topic:
THE MYSTERY OF DECEPTION [PART FOUR]
Text: 2 Peter 2:1-22

Prayer
Father Almighty, Thank you for keeping us today, thank You for Your grace that has always been abundant in our lives, we pray and ask that You visit us tonight as we look into Your words of life, let us be transformed into Your very image in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

Introduction
I welcome you all to today's study in Jesus Christ's name, we'd continue our teaching on the THE MYSTERY OF DECEPTION now, for the benefit of those who have not read the previous parts, please kindly go through them. God bless you.

Bible Text: 2 Peter 2:1-22
But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. [2] And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. [3] And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. [4] For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; [5] And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; [6] And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an

ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; [7] And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: [8] (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;) [9] The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: [10] But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. [11] Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. [12] But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; [13] And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; [14] Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: [15] Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; [16] But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet. [17] These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. [18] For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. [19] While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. [20] For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,

they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. [21] For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. [22] But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Study

Those who walk according to the flesh. Now, walking in the flesh is broken into two categories. Though there are many categories of those who walk according to the flesh, this does not mean that one is better than the other, or that one will escape judgment while the other will be judged. All shall face judgment.

1. Those who walk according to the flesh in the **lust of uncleanness**, and
2. Those who walk according to the flesh **despising authorities.**

These are the two categories mentioned by Apostle Peter.

When talking about the facets of those who walk according to the flesh, we refer to those who indulge in the lust of polluting passions. These polluting passions are burning desires that defile the body, and they are often from within. When a man who claims to be a servant of God remains persistent in lustful passions, then we know that such is false. There is no true servant of God that would be living in lustful passions and be comfortable in it. But these false teachers are led by divers lusts, and they are full-time into immoralities. **2 Timothy 3:6** – "For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts." Those women under them are laden with sin and remain in sin. In fact, these ministers make these women more deeply rooted in sin.

They do not see anything wrong in this shameful act, and they have taken it as normal. In fact, they have a target to sleep with as many women as possible within a specific period of time. And because many women are gullible, they are falling into the hands of these false teachers. No true servant of God would ask any woman other than his wife for sex. When a man begins to request sex from strange women, it is a clear sign that he is walking according to the lusts of uncleanness. There was a case of a man, a so-called man of God, who impregnated about twenty women in his church, and he claimed it was God that told him to do so. In fact, he said those who were yet to get pregnant would also get pregnant.

Unfortunately, there are many who do not know what the Word of God says, and they are following such ministers. Peter says there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you—those who secretly bring in damnable heresies. There is the case of a so-called prophetess, too. A woman went to her for help because her husband was unfaithful in their marriage. But the prophetess took the husband for herself, saying he was actually meant for her and not for the woman. She even promised to help the woman get another man.

These are the very ones Peter was talking about. When you see such people, you should know—they are not true servants of God. All these people are kept under chastisement until the day of judgment and doom. Their end will not be palatable. As a man of God, how many women have you slept with in your church? You, pastor—how many sisters have you brought down, deceiving them in the name of marriage? You keep saying ladies are running after you, yet you call yourself a minister of grace. You have now decided to use the gift God gave you, and the position you occupy, to attract ladies to yourself—saying it is not your fault—yet you keep sleeping with them. You call all these

things enjoyment because you have been held in grip under lust, not knowing that the Lord is watching you, and you are being reserved for judgment. Choir master, what is happening in the choir? What kind of personal rehearsal are you doing with Sister Ruth in your room? You want your lustful desires to destroy you, right? You keep saying others are doing it. The body is not firewood—but you do not know that the body you refuse to put under subjection is already becoming wood for hellfire. You are a pastor, also called a minister of God, and as a lecturer, you refuse to issue a pass mark to any lady who does not succumb to your sexual advances—even when she rightfully deserves the grade.

You have destroyed the academic journey of many ladies because of your burning sexual desires. You think the Lord does not know, but He sees everything. You are old enough to be a father to many of these young women. Some, out of fear of repeating your course, have given in—and you call it smartness. You believe no lady should pass through your department without you having a taste of her **honey pot.** But what you don't realize is that there is death in that pot. You are dying gradually because of your evil, and you do not even know it. You feel no one knows what you are doing, yet everyone knows—and worse, the Lord is disappointed in you.

When you refuse to turn away from a godless life, understand this: you are being **reserved for judgment.**This warning is not only for so-called men of God, but also for all who profess the name of Christ, yet are carried away by diverse lusts—thus presenting themselves as false brethren. Anyone who indulges in corrupt passions of this kind, and any so-called minister who treats fleshly lusts lightly, is not a true man of God. This kind of lust can ruin a person—and even the Church of God—driving the Holy Spirit away from the assembly. Peter talks about another evidence of the flesh in regard to those who will be reserved for

judgment. There are those who **despise authorities**. This implies that **despising government** is also a work of the flesh. It means that those who speak against or disesteem rulers, dominion, or governmental structures are also positioned for divine judgment. In this context, rulers can refer to those who govern the land according to its laws and decrees. We must not belittle them, curse them, or revile their office, for God is fully aware of their presence in leadership. To revile those in authority is to give ourselves over to the lust of the flesh—rebellion and pride.

The Word of God clearly warns against such actions. **Exodus 22:28** says, "**Do not blaspheme God or curse the ruler of your people."** Cursing rulers is a form of despising them, and this opens a person up to judgment, just as Peter has declared. Let us walk in wisdom and godly fear, not allowing the spirit of lawlessness to push us out of divine alignment. The rulers can also refer to those whom the Lord has placed as spiritual heads over His people. It is so pathetic today to see those who despise God's servants. Many ridicule them and say all sorts of mannerless things against them. Apostle Paul understood this, and he quickly corrected himself when he reviled Ananias the high priest.

Acts 23:2–5 — "And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth. Then said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law? And they that stood by said, Revilest thou God's high priest? Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people. Paul did not insist that Ananias was a whited wall. He quickly made it known that he did not know that he was the high priest, quoting that he must not speak evil of God's high priest. This is because the unjust who do so would be

reserved for punishment. If God is to judge you and I on the basis of this, would we be free? We know that our governments today are not really doing as expected. What are the things we say against them? What about those men of God whom the Lord has placed over us? What are the evil things we say about them in our thoughts and discussions with other people? We should repent and not join others to commit such sins anymore. Peter says these false prophets would despise authorities. This tells us that another sign to know a false minister is how he speaks evil of governments, both spiritual and physical governments. When a minister continues to lay curses on a government, all the less, you should not be tempted that he is from God. He is carried away by the lust of his own fleshly desires.

Jude 8 — "Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities."Being rebellious to authorities is not a fruit of the Spirit, and God is not pleased when we do. It shows clearly that we are out of His will. Apostle Peter continues by saying they are presumptuous, which means they overstep due bounds, taking liberties which has made them proud, reckless, and arrogant to the point that they do not tremble when they scoff at supernatural beings. They feel laying curses or speaking evil words against evil angels are unacceptable by the Lord, and brother Jude tells us that even Michael the archangel could not do so when he was contending with the devil about the body of Moses.

Jude 9–10 — "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves."True ministers of God carry the nature of Christ. As such, they cannot revile even the devil, because out of

the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. When we lay curses on the devil, it means our hearts are filled with curses. Michael only said, "**The Lord rebuke thee, Satan.**"But when those who say they are servants of God begin to abuse the devil, railing at him, you should know that they themselves have become corrupt and have fallen short of the true nature of Christ. For they speak evil of those things they do not even know. God Himself did not rain abuses and curses on Satan.

Zechariah 3:2 — "And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?"If God is of this nature, then His true servants are of such nature. **Ephesians 4:29** — "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

This is a clear sign to know a true teacher from a false one. When a minister of the gospel keeps saying words that do not glorify and edify, you would know that something is wrong. As such, flee from such. Some of them even lay curses on their members. One even got so annoyed with her members because they did not celebrate her birthday, claiming that she has been laboring over them and they are not appreciative. May God open the eyes of many to see in Jesus Christ's name.

We'd stop here for today and continue next time, God bless you

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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