

Father of Lies – the Devil – Part 2

When Satan persuaded Eve to sin in the Garden of Eden, he did it by lying. “The serpent said to the woman, ‘You surely shall not die’ “ (Gen. 3:4). Satan lied about the result of disobeying God then, and he has been lying ever since. The apostle Paul described the devil as “the god of this world who has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God” (2 Cor. 4:4). These people may not know it, but they are enslaved to do the will of Satan. The unbelieving deliberately close their eyes to the truth and follow error, being Satan’s disciples. But, the preaching of the gospel has as its purpose “to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the domain of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sin and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me” (Acts 26:18).

The apostle John wrote, “the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father but is from the world” (1 John 2:16). Remember, Satan is the god of this world. Satan has lied to mankind convincing them that they, by their actions, can change the climate. This is a lie because Satan knows, according to scripture, that God is in control of the climate. Neither the devil nor “Mother Nature” have the slightest control over climate. “Behold, He [God] restrains the waters, and they dry up; and He sends them out, and they inundate the earth.” “For He draws up the drops of water, they distill rain from the mist, which the clouds pour down, they drip upon man abundantly. Can anyone understand the spreading of the clouds, the thundering of His pavilion? Behold, He spreads His lightening about Him, and He covers the depths of the sea. For by these He judges peoples...That it may do whatever He commands it on the face of the inhabited earth. Whether for correction, or for His world, or for loving kindness, He causes it to happen” (Job 12:15, 36:27-32, 37:9-13). According to these verses God is in control of the climate. The devil’s lie is that mankind is in control of the climate.

Many people today are struggling with illicit drug use. The apostles established the difference between walking in the dark or in the light. To be in the “light” is to be in fellowship with God. To be in “darkness” is to be in bondage to Satan. Paul wrote, “But you, brethren [believers], are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober. For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night. But since we are of the day, let us be sober...” (1 Thess. 5:4-8). As Paul writes about the “deeds of the flesh” he lists “sorcery, drunkenness, carousing [partying], and things like these...that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:20-21). The Greek lexicon for sorcery is Pharmakeia, which is where we get the word “pharmacy.”

Because of the abuse of drugs and alcohol mankind is trying to find solutions to these abuses outside of the council and guidance of the word of God. Their solutions include supplying clean needles to users so they do not have to share and risk the possibility of disease. Man's solution to opioid overdose is to have an anti-dose available. We do not hear solutions that one should seek the council of God's word. Paul wrote, "Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires (Gal. 5:24). Jesus said, "He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day" (John 12:48). Paul said that Satan will deceive the unbeliever and lead them into wickedness, and that they will "perish because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness" (2 Thess. 2:10-12).