Lesson Booklet:

*EXPOSING DECEPTION*

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this text is to aid the reader in a better understanding of various truths found in the Holy Scriptures and discovering for themselves how the Scriptures apply to their lives. It is the desire of this work that through this study of the Scriptures each learner will be brought closer in their relationship to their Creator as a result of these lessons.

Presented on the following pages is a series of one page lessons associated with the topic of
“*Exposing Deception*”. The lessons contained in this booklet are intended only to introduce the subject at hand; further more in-depth resources are available in the online library where you obtained this booklet. Each lesson has been optimized to work best for use in a small group, but is also appropriate for individual review. In fact, if you plan to meet with others to work through this lesson book, it is highly recommend that you work through the lessons ahead of time to find answers in Scripture, as most lessons welcome discussion. When prompted for discussion, o*pinions* should be heard and discussed, of course. However, a Scripture verse or passage should accompany discussions as the foundation for what the belief or opinion is based on. Study tools, such as a printed concordance or searchable Bible software to help you find the location of a Scripture that you may be having a hard time remembering, are encouraged for use with these lessons. Please remember always to study the Scriptures in context of the full passage to ensure that it properly accompanies the topic being discussed.

Concerning the source used for these lessons, please note that all Scripture quotations in this book are taken from the Modern King James Version of the Bible. The purpose in using this particular English translation is simply because it is, by name, a modern version of the widely accepted King James Version. From the start, readers are encouraged to have his or her preferred translation of their Bible alongside for reference while reading along.

In addition, traditional Christian terms and names are *intentionally* used throughout this lesson book to reach a larger scope of readers and help those who may be beginners in this knowledge learn with ease. Occasionally, the need to employ the use of a Hebrew term or phrase may present itself for a clearer understanding of Scripture; when this occurs, the corresponding English meaning is always supplied.

# Salvation

## Scripture Highlight

### John 3:16-17

#### For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him.

### Romans 8:1

#### *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those *who are* in Christ Jesus, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

### Acts 4:12

#### And there is salvation in no other One; for there is no other name under Heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

### 1st John 3:1-7

#### Behold what manner of love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God. Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be. But we know that when He shall be revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope on him purifies himself, even as that *One* is pure. Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness. And you know that He was revealed that He might take away our sins, and in Him is no sin. Everyone who abides in Him does not sin. Everyone who sins has not seen Him nor known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. He who does righteousness is righteous, even as that *One* is righteous.

### John 10:7-11

#### Then Jesus said to them again, Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters in by Me, he shall be saved and shall go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come so that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

### Matthew 24:21-27

#### For then shall be great tribulation, such as has not been since *the* beginning of *the* world to this time; no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days should be shortened, no flesh would be saved. But for the elect's sake, those days shall be shortened. Then if any man shall say to you, Lo, here *is* Christ! Or, There! Do not believe it. For false Christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders; so much so that, if *it were* possible, they would deceive even the elect. Behold, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they shall say to you, Behold, *He is* in the desert! Do not go out. Behold, *He is* in the secret rooms! Do not believe it. For as the lightning comes out of *the* east and shines even to *the* west, so also will be the coming of the Son of man.



## Discussion

We have a Good Shepherd, and we should know His voice and not rely on hired religious men to teach us (John 10:12-18). We do not want to be deceived into thinking we are following our Good Shepherd, but actually following another (Matthew 7:13-23, Luke 13:23-28). There is no condemnation for making mistakes because of things that you may have learned wrong in the past for those who walk according to the Spirit of Truth. Discuss what our Good Shepherd has done for us!

# Living Waters

## Scripture Highlight

### Jeremiah 2:13-14

#### For My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken Me, the Fountain of living waters, to hew out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water. *Is* Israel a servant? Or *is* he a servant of the house? Why has he become a prey?

### Jeremiah 17:13

#### O LORD, the Hope of Israel, all who forsake You shall be ashamed. Those who depart from Me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the LORD, the Fountain of living waters.

### Psalms 36:8-9

#### They shall be satisfied with the fatness of Your house; and You shall make them drink of the river of Your pleasures. For with You *is* the fountain of life; in Your light we shall see light.

### John 7:37-38

#### And in the last day of the great feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes on Me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

### Revelation 7:17

#### For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will feed them and will lead them to *the* fountains of living waters. And God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.Revelation 21:6-7

#### And He said to me, It is done. I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who thirsts I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely. He who overcomes will inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he will be My son.

### Revelation 22:1

#### And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

### Revelation 22:17

#### And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let the *one* hearing say, Come! And let the *one* who is thirsty come. And he willing, let him take of the water of life freely.



## Group Study & Discussion

The first miracle of our Messiah occurred at a wedding. It is the miracle of His turning water into wine. The account of this event is recorded in the first half of John Chapter 2. Read this account, paying particular attention not just to the fact that Christ, Our Bridegroom, performed His first miracle at a wedding, but also the imagery of the water and the vessels. In Jeremiah 2:13 in the *Scripture Highlight* above, it is pointed out that not only have people forsaken the living waters, but have also made false cisterns that are unable to hold water of truth. One might think of this as a parable to the deceptions and lies that are taught to people from pulpits today. John Chapter 4, Christ speaks to a Samaritan woman who was the victim of false teachings. Read this account, discuss, and discover for yourselves parallels between these two events in the book of John while comparing what you learn to the verses presented in the Scripture Highlight above (esp. John 7:37-38).

# Knowledge of The Law and Sin

## Scripture Highlight

### Hosea 4:6

#### My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you from being priest to Me. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your sons, even I.

### Proverbs 1:7

#### The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

### Proverbs 2:6

#### For the LORD gives wisdom; out of His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding.

### Proverbs 4:1-7

#### Sons, hear the instruction of a father, and listen in order to know understanding. For I give you good teaching; do not forsake my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother. He also taught me, and said to me, Let your heart hold fast my words, keep my commandments and live. Get wisdom, get understanding; forget not; nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she shall keep you; love her, and she shall keep you. Wisdom *is* the main thing; get wisdom; and with all your getting get understanding.

### 1st John 3:4

#### Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.



## Study

## Discussion

Perhaps the largest deception on mankind is not feeling the need for *knowledge* of the ways of God. Many do not even *know* what sin is; hence, they sin without knowing it. They experience the consequences of sin without understanding. Some even choose to follow the flesh and claim that it is sin to follow God’s laws – Romans 3:20 and 7:7 correct this.

Both Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 in “The Old Testament” list the Ten Commandments. Lookup the following “New Testament” Scriptures to get a quick understanding of the viewpoint of the commandments from a New Testament standpoint (the viewpoint is the same):

*Luke 1:6, John 14:15, John 14:21, John 15:10, 1st Corinthians 7:19, 1st John 3:22-24, 1st John 5:2-3, 2nd John 1:6, Revelation 14:12, Revelation 22:14.*

The books of The Law, called “The Torah” in Hebrew, contain the commandments of our Heavenly Father. Often, New Testament only printings of the Bible contain the addition of the book of Psalms. Examine Psalm 119, looking for occurrences of “the law” in the text. What attitude towards “the law” is displayed in this chapter?

In the beginning, Adam and Eve were given a commandment and were deceived into breaking it by Satan who pretends to be God and told them that they would be like gods as well (Genesis 3:1-5). For several millennium since, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, has deceived the whole world (Revelation 12:9). And, false teachers have assisted him:

#### **2nd Corinthians 11:14-15** Did not even Satan marvelously transform himself into an angel of light? Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves as ministers of righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works.

Both Satan and his “ministers” will be cast into that lake of fire (Revelation 20, Matthew 25:41), for Satan has deceived the whole world by looking and acting like God, but without the commandments written in The Law/Torah. Satan has created a false Messiah that many worship with claims that The Law/Torah is done away with. Jesus never did away with The Law/Torah. Discuss how many are deceived into *not* keeping the commandments; hence, they are often unknowingly following Satan thinking his ways are God’s ways.

# Summarizing The Commandments

## Scripture Highlight

### Matthew 22:36-40

#### Master, which *is* the great commandment in the Law? Jesus said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second *is* like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

### John 14:15

#### If you love Me, keep My commandments.

### John 14:21-24

#### He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him. Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, Lord, how is it that You will reveal Yourself to us and not to the world? Jesus answered and said to him, If a man loves Me, he will keep My Word. And My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. He who does not love Me does not keep My words, and the Word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.



## Study

One of the greatest deceptions in modern Christianity today is the idea that the commandments have been done away with and replace by only two rather vague commandments:

Love God, Love others.

However, this is not the intent of Jesus’s words in the *Scripture Highlight* of Matthew 22:36-40 above. He was simply *summarizing* the commandments that everyone listening already knew.

If a person pretends that there are only two Commandments then, that person must ask themselves the following:

If you love your neighbor as yourself…

1. Would you covet his wife? His house? His stuff?
2. Would you lie to him?
3. Would you steal from him?
4. Would you commit adultery with his wife?
5. Would you kill him?
6. Would you dishonor your parents?

If you love The LORD with all of your heart, soul and mind…

1. Would you have another god before Him?
2. Would you have or worship an idol?
3. Would you use His name in vain?

Jesus’s words in Matthew 22:36-40 were summarizing the Commandments that teach us *how* to love God and others!

## Discussion

One of the Ten Commandments was left out in the *Discussion* to the left. Research Exodus 20 and/or Deuteronomy 5 to discover which one it was.

Modern Christianity has a problem with this particular commandment and chooses to ignore it (some may even consider it unimportant – see Matthew 5:19). This commandment is covered extensively throughout all of the scriptures; for instance, the entirety of Leviticus chapters 23 and 25 are dedicated to it – Ezekiel chapter 20 speaks of this particular commandment as a sign, and announces many of the judgements due to not keeping The LORD’s statutes.

If you do not keep or know the commandments, study to show yourself approved and avoid vain talk that the commandments no longer exist (2 Timothy 2:15-16).

## Question

When David sinned, he pleaded that the Holy Spirit not be taken from him (Psalm 51:11); he knew the separation that sin causes (Isaiah 59:2).

John 14:16-18 talks of the Holy Spirit as a Comforter and Spirit of Truth that the world cannot receive (due to sin). Can the modern Christian be protected by and filled with this Holy Spirit if they sin, even if they do not believe all of the commandments (see Hosea 4:6)?

# The Unchanging Truth

## Scripture Highlight

### Psalm 89:34

#### I will not break My covenant, nor change the thing that has gone out of My lips.

### Genesis 17:7

#### And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God to you and to your seed after you.

### Galatians 3:29

#### And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.

### Numbers 23:19

#### God *is* not a man that He should lie, neither the son of man that He should repent. Has He said, and shall He not do it? Or has He spoken, and shall He not make it good?

### Psalm 102:25-27

#### Of old You have laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens *are* the work of Your hands. They shall perish, but You shall endure; yea, all of them shall become old like a garment; like a robe You shall change them, and they shall be changed; but You *are* He, and Your years shall have no end.

### Deuteronomy 4:2

#### You shall not add to the word which I command you, neither shall you take away from it, so that you may keep the commands of the LORD your God which I command you.



## Study

Our Heavenly Father is the Spirit of Truth – He is forever, unchanging and does not lie. Study the Scripture Highlight above as well as the following set of verses:

*Isaiah 40:8, Malachi 3:6, James 1:17, Hebrews 13:8, Hebrews 6:17-18, Psalm 33:11, Psalm 119:98, Psalm 119:160*

A common deception today is that Yehovah, our God, has somehow changed the time of the Sabbath to a day other than the 7th day of the week (The 1st day of the week, Sunday, is *not* the Sabbath), changed the yearly Sabbath days (Holy Days or “Holidays”) to different days, or changed even what the definition of sin is by doing away with the law.

It is the *enemy* that deceives the whole world by attempting to change times and laws, *not* the most High:

**Daniel 7:25** And he shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and plot to change times and laws. And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time.

## Discussion

In our modern day world, the landmark boundaries of just what is and is not “sin” has been moved around many many times by our modern culture, in an attempt to deceive by redefining truth. Read together the following statutes and strong warning:

*Boundaries: Deuteronomy 19:14, Deuteronomy 27:17, Proverbs 22:28, Proverbs 23:10 Warning: Colossians 2:8*

Our actions have meaning! The instructions given to us in the Scriptures have *great* meaning. Discuss the importance of not moving ancient boundaries (ie: of what sin is) and a few other instances from The Law/Torah where we are instructed to obey specific commandments and statutes whose physical fulfillment of obedience also have similar greater meaning.

# The Accusations Against Us

## Scripture Highlight

### Colossians 2:13-14

#### And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross.

### 2nd Timothy 3:16

#### All Scripture *is* God-breathed, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

### Matthew 22:29

#### Jesus answered and said to them, You err, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.

### Luke 24:27

#### And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

### Luke 24:44

#### And He said to them, These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses and in the Prophets and *in* the Psalms about Me.

### 1st Timothy 1:8-11

#### But we know that the law *is* good if a man uses it lawfully, knowing this, that the law *is* not made for a righteous one, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for homosexuals, for slave-traders, for liars, for perjurers, and anything else that is contrary to sound doctrine, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.



## Discussion

## Study

Colossians 2:13-14 in the Scripture Highlight above is often deceptively used to falsely teach that the commandments of God (The Law/Torah) were “nailed to the cross” – and idea opposite to Romans 7:12. Read Romans 7, a chapter that parallels our study of Numbers chapter 5. Colossians 2:13-14 actually shows that the *accusations against us* are what was nailed to the cross.

Paul, the author of many New Testament letters, was a very scholarly man who wrote from a perspective of one who was very educated in The Law/Torah. Peter speaks of this in 2nd Peter 3:15-18 and warns that unlearned people wrestle and twist Paul’s writings. Discuss how this is still an issue today.

We strive to be the Bride of Christ. We want to please our Bridegroom. But, sin has brought us the bitter curse of death and we need Christ to bring us grace through righteousness (see Romans 5). However, before the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God comes with the strength of our Messiah (our Bridegroom), we stand accused before God day and night (Revelation 12:10).

Read and study Numbers 5:11-31, which explains how a woman accused by her husband goes through the trial of drinking bitter waters. Observe that it is the *accusations* against her that are written down. Also, observe the uses of the word “jealousy” and compare with other verses such as Exodus 20:5, Deuteronomy 6:15, and 2nd Corinthians 11:2.

# Beware of Unlearned People

## Scripture Highlight

### Proverbs 4:11-12

#### I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in the right paths. When you go, your steps shall not be narrowed, and when you run, you shall not stumble.

### Habakkuk 1:4

#### Therefore the law has become helpless, and justice does not always go forth. For the wicked entraps the righteous; therefore justice goes forth, being perverted.

### 2nd Peter 3:15-16

#### And think of the long-suffering of our Lord *as* salvation (as our beloved brother Paul also has written to you according to the wisdom given to him as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which the unlearned and unstable pervert, as also *they do* the rest of the Scriptures, to *their* own destruction).

### Matthew 15:8-9 (also Mark 7:6-7)

#### "This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they worship Me, teaching *for* doctrines *the* commandments of men."



## Discussion

## Study

Imagine a well cleared level running path. By nature of a running path, it is organized for running without hazard. The Apostle Paul compares his course of life with that of a runner (see Acts 20:24, 1st Corinthians 9:24-27, and 2nd Timothy 4:7-8). The Law/Torah, given to us by our Heavenly Father, is the structure given to us such that we can run the course of our lives without hazard – receiving the many blessings of an abundant life as a result.

Now imagine that level clear running path being plowed up by oxen or tractor. Imagine the many ruts that would now be serious tripping hazards for any runner. *This* is what false and deceptive teachings do to the course of many people’s lives.

Discuss any personal experience that you may have witnessed of this happening and what you can do to run the course of your life with joy and not hazard.

Habakkuk opens his writings lamenting the burden that he is seeing iniquity, grievance, destruction and violence. He states that the Law/Torah ceases and is helpless and slacked; and that righteous judgements never go forth – that the wicked encompass or surround the righteous such that right rulings come out wrong and twisted. This is the same thing that Peter warned about (see the *Scripture Highlight* above). As mentioned in another lesson, unlearned people still wrestle and twist the Scriptures to their own destruction.

Jude writes in his letter that it is *needed* that he write them such that they *earnestly* content for the faith:

#### **Jude 1:3** Having made all haste to write to you about the common salvation, beloved, I had need to write to you to exhort *you* to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints.

Why does Jude say this? Read the one chapter book of Jude. Search for what the problem is and how it relates to the topic of this lesson series.

## Extra

In John 16:13, our Messiah refers to the Holy Spirit as the *Spirit of Truth*. Psalms 119:142 states that “Your righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness, and Your law *is* the truth.” Hence, the Holy Spirit of Truth is the Law of Truth.
Is it possible for one who rejects the Law/Torah to be “filled with the Holy Spirit” as many such people proclaim to be?
While considering this question, compare and contrast versus such as Proverbs 28:9 and James 5:16.

# Are We Meant to Suffer?

## Scripture Highlight

### Genesis 12:3

#### And I will bless those that bless you and curse the one who curses you. And in you shall all families of the earth be blessed.

### Galatians 3:29

#### And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.

### James 1:12-14

#### Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation, because having been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Let no one being tempted say, I am tempted from God. For God is not tempted by evils, and He tempts no one. But each one is tempted by his lusts, being drawn away and seduced *by them*.

### Proverbs 10:21-22

#### The lips of the righteous feed many; but fools die for lack of wisdom. The blessing of the LORD itself makes rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.

### Psalms 24:3-5

#### Who shall go up into the hill of the LORD? Or who shall stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart; who has not lifted up his soul to vanity, and has not sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.



It is well known that Christ Himself suffered for us… for *our* sins (Peter mentions this in 1st Peter 3:18-20). James mentions in his letter the suffering of the prophets and even the endurance of Job (James 5:10-11). However, most suffering today is not as noble… people today often suffer, and are under curses, *because of their own sins*. Christians may mistake this as a noble thing; but, it is not. We are meant to live a full satisfying abundant life (John 10:10), but this blessing is *conditional*.

Read and compare Exodus 20:5-6 and Exodus 34:6-7 (also Deuteronomy 7:9-12) to discover what this condition is and has been from the beginning. Read Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and choose life.

## Study

## Discussion

We are not meant to suffer from the curses of sin. But, just *believing* that there is a God will not deliver you – even the demons believe and tremble. Faith is good, but both faith and the righteous works of obedience is much better:

#### **James 2:18-20** But someone will say, You have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith from my works. You believe that there is one God, you do well; even the demons believe and tremble. But will you know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

Faith was Abraham’s starting point (Romans 4:1-22), and it was credited to him as righteousness (Genesis 15:6), and Abraham continued in works of righteousness. The blessings and curses in chapters like Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 are all *conditional*. Long before these conditions were written down, Abraham understood this. Read and discuss Deuteronomy 11:26-28. Also discuss the following concept: You are saved by grace if and only if you begin to keep the commandments. This is your good works. That is when grace is applied. Until that moment, you are not saved by grace. As long as you keep on sinning (and sin is the transgression of the law, see 1st John 3:4), then you have no grace applied to you. This is what “*repenting*” means: you have turned from your sins and are now going to keep the commandments. Once you do this, then and only then, does grace get applied. For grace brings salvation by teaching us not to sin (Titus 2:11-12).

# Prediction of Solomon

## Scripture Highlight

### 1st Kings 8:30-40

#### And You shall listen to the cry of Your servant, and of Your people Israel, when they shall pray toward this place, and hear in Heaven Your dwelling-place, and when You hear, forgive! If any man sins against his neighbor, and if an oath is laid on him to cause him to swear, and if the oath comes before Your altar in this house, then hear in Heaven, and do, and judge Your servants, to declare the wicked *to be* wicked, to bring his way on his head, and to declare the righteous to be righteous, to give him according to his righteousness. When Your people Israel are crushed before the enemy because they have sinned against You, and shall turn again to You and confess Your name, and pray, and cry to You in this house, then hear in Heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel, and bring them again into the land which You gave to their fathers. When the heavens are restrained, and there is no rain because they have sinned against You, if they pray toward this place and confess Your name, and turn from their sin when You afflict them, then hear in Heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants, and of Your people Israel, for You shall teach them the good way in which they should walk, and give rain on Your land which You have given to Your people for an inheritance. If there is famine in the land, if there is plague, blasting, mildew, locusts; if there are stripping locusts; if their enemy encircles them in the land of their cities, whatever plague, whatever sickness, any prayer, any supplication from any man of all Your people Israel, who shall each know the plague of his own heart, and shall spread forth his hands toward this house, then hear in Heaven Your dwelling-place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to all his ways, whose heart You know. For You, You only, know the hearts of all the sons of Adam. Do this so that they may fear You all the days that they live in the land which You have given to our fathers.

### Leviticus 26:40-42

#### If they shall confess their wilfulness and the wilfulness of their fathers, with their sin which they sinned against Me, and that also they have walked contrary to Me-- I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies. If then their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they then pay for their iniquity, then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and also My covenant with Isaac, and also My covenant with Abraham I will remember. And I will remember the land.



## Group Study & Discussion

King Solomon, in his wisdom, predicted what might happen to Israel if the people did not obey the commandments and statutes given to them in the Law/Torah. A king of Israel was required to write out for himself a copy of Law/Torah and read it all of the days of his life so that his heart would be right in order that he may continue long in his kingdom (see Deuteronomy 17:18-20). Because of this, Solomon was very aware at that time of what the curses were, described in Leviticus 26 and elsewhere. In addition, he knew what the people must do when these curses come upon them.

Daniel 9:1-19 records Daniel’s confession and prayer of repentance when he realizes the curses that had come to pass after calculating for himself how long the land would rest (verse 2) according to Leviticus 26:43. It is a deception to ignore sin and the obvious consequences of sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves; we should confess our sins, and ask forgiveness (1st John 1:8-10). Read all of these passages mentioned and discuss the dangers and deception of ignoring sin.

# The Rapture Deception

## Scripture Highlight

### Matthew 24:29-31

#### And immediately after the tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from the heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then the sign of the Son of man shall appear in the heavens. And then all the tribes of the earth shall mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of the heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of *the* heavens to the other.

### Luke 21:27-28

#### And then they shall see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to happen, then look up and lift up your heads, for your redemption draws near.

### Revelation 1:7

#### Behold, He comes with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, and those who pierced Him will see Him, and all the kindreds of the earth will wail because of Him. Even so, Amen.



## Study

There is no secret event, called *The Rapture*, where people mysteriously disappear and only bad people are left behind. This is a myth and a deception. The *Scripture Highlight* above makes it very clear that every eye will see our Messiah when He returns; this will be a very loud and visible event, and we will be looking up to see Him. As in the days of Noah, *you want to be left behind* (Matthew 24:37-41) because the meek inherit the Earth (Matthew 5:5) while the wicked are killed/taken for judgement (Revelation 11:15-18, Matthew 25:31-33)! When that door is shut, it is final (Luke 17:27, Matthew 25:10).

Read together 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1st Corinthians 15:50-53. When the last trumpet sounds and the Lord Himself descends from heaven with a very loud shout (note, this is a very loud event… not a secret happening), the saints who have died in the past will be raised and the saints who are still alive will be transformed into new incorruptible immortal bodies.

Once again, there is nothing secret about the return of our Messiah. We are told not to be ignorant about this (1st Thessalonians 4:13). We are given the holy days of Leviticus 23 which show us the plan of things to come (Colossians 2:17). The Feast of Trumpets, in particular, is the holy day each year that one can know the season of, approximating the time, but only our Heavenly Father knows the day or the hour each year that the seventh month of the year will start with the sighting of the first sliver of the new moon – *this* is what is alluded to in Matthew 24:42 and 25:13. Sadly, only a small portion of those who profess to knew our King are willing to come to His Feasts, His holy appointed days each year, refusing even to honor the weekly Sabbath each week. *This* is the meaning of the parable of the wedding feast in Matthew 22:1-14.

There will be great tribulation that will last many, many days – indeed, many years. There are blessings to him that overcomes (Revelation 2:7, 2:11, 2:17, 2:26, 3:5, 3:12, 3:21), do not be deceived by false doctrines in these latter times (1st Timothy 4:1, 2nd Peter 2:1), such as The Rapture deception which leaves one unprepared and cause one to be scoffed at (2nd Peter 3:3-4) and cause a great falling way (2nd Thessalonians 2:3). Be strong, learn and teach the truth instead – knowing that during those troublesome times, the Spirit of Truth will be there to help us (Daniel 11:32-34).

## The Last Days

## Discussion

The final 4820 days (about 13 years):

2300 days – Daniel 8:4

1260 days – Revelation 11:3

1260 days – Revelation 11:9-11

What good comes out of the Rapture lie? Do teachers of this deception need to learn or know actual prophecy? Does this deception allow people to remain complacent or cause people to prepare? Do people live better, more obedient, lives because of a belief in the Rapture, or do they rely on a second chance?

# The False Holy Days Deception

## Scripture Highlight

### Jeremiah 10:1-4

#### Hear the word which the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel. So says the LORD, Do not learn the way of the nations, and do not be terrified at the signs of the heavens; for the nations are terrified at them. For the customs of the people *are* vain; for one cuts a tree out of the forest with the axe, the work of the hands of the workman. They adorn it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers, so that it will not wobble.

### Amos 5:26 (King James Version)

But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves.

### Act 7:42-43

#### Then God turned and gave them over to serve the host of the heavens, as it is written in *the* book of the Prophets: "O house of Israel, have you offered to Me slain beasts and sacrifices forty years in the wilderness? Yea, you took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, images which you made in order to worship them; and I will remove you beyond Babylon."

### Ezekiel 8:13-14

#### He also said to me, You turn again, *and* you shall see greater evils that they are doing. And He brought me to the opening of the gate of the LORD's house, toward the north. And behold, women were sitting there, weeping for Tammuz.

### Leviticus 23:1-2

#### And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim, holy convocations, even these are My appointed feasts.



## Group Study & Discussion

Learn not the way of the heathen! Obviously, Sunday is not the Sabbath. Christmas, Easter, and many other man made holidays are not holy days either. In fact, many holidays are actually witchcraft in disguise. Christmas is the worship of Moloch, the god Ba’al, which is condemned in the Old Testament; that star on top of the Christmas tree is the sign of a false god (known by the Romans as Saturnalia worship). Consider the “Christmas Tree” when reading the *Scripture Highlight* above. Consider also what Ezekiel was shown: the 40 days of weeping for the false god Tammuz before the first Sunday after the first full moon after the equinox in early spring (“Easter Sunday”) where pagans worship the fertility goddess known as Queen of Heaven is known today as the 40 days of Lent. “Sunrise Services” are a direct form of sun god worship.

The very first commandment tells us to put no false gods before His face (Exodus 20:3, Deuteronomy 5:7); in fact, we should not even speak the names of false gods (Exodus 23:13). Likewise, we should not learn these pagan ways (Deuteronomy 12:29-32, Leviticus 18:1-5 & 18:30). Study the following passages to learn of warnings concerning Moloch in particular: *Leviticus 18:21 & 20:2, 2nd Kings 23:10; see also Ezekiel 23:39, Jeremiah 19:1-15 & 7:20-31 & 8:1-2 & 32:28-35*. One might ask, “How did this happen in Israel?” King Solomon’s many wives brought in the worship of the Queen of Heaven, known as Easter/Ashtoreth/Astarte (1st Kings 11:1-13) which led to later generations being familiar with this paganism (2nd Kings 16:1-4 & 23:1-28, 2nd Chronicles 28:3 & 33:1-9). However, this problem with Easter/Ashtoreth/Astarte can be found all the way back to the book of Judges (Judges 10:6).

Be VERY weary… *any* holy day not outlined in the pages of Leviticus 23 must be examined closely. We are not to add to or take away from the Scriptures. Multiple lessons could be written on this topic (ie: *Halloween*, any type of winter *Festival of Lights*, and many more); however, the intent of this lesson is to simply introduce this subject. Discuss and expand on this topic for the benefit of others in your group. Consider researching online to better identify these pagan holidays to avoid.

# Do Not Be Deceived

## Scripture Highlight

### Matthew 7:13-23

#### Go in through the narrow gate, for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and many there are who go in through it. Because narrow *is* the gate and constricted *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles? Even so every good tree brings forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruits, nor *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that does not bring forth good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you shall know them. Not everyone who says to Me, Lord! Lord! shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord! Lord! Did we not prophesy in Your name, and through Your name throw out demons, and through Your name do many wonderful works? And then I will say to them I never knew you! Depart from Me, those working lawlessness!

### Luke 13:23-28

#### And one said to Him, Lord, *are* the ones being saved few? And He said to them, Strive to enter in at the narrow gate. For I say to you, many will seek to enter in and shall not be able. And once the Master of the house has risen up and has shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us, and He shall answer and say to you, I do not know you; from where are you; then you shall begin to say, We ate and drank in Your presence, and You have taught in our streets. But He shall say, I tell you, I do not know you; from where you are. Depart from Me, all workers of unrighteousness! There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you will see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and yourselves being thrust out.

### Matthew 19:17

#### And He said to him, Why do you call Me good? *There is* none good but one, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.

### 1st John 2:4

#### He who says, I have known Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

### 1st John 4:1

#### Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but try the spirits to see if they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

### 2nd Corinthians 11:13-15

#### For such ones are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. Did not even Satan marvelously transform himself into an angel of light? Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves as ministers of righteousness, whose end shall be according to their works.

### Ephesians 5:6

#### Let no man deceive you with vain words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the children of disobedience.

### Philippians 2:12

#### Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, cultivate your own salvation with fear and trembling.



## Discussion

“And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die,” (Genesis 3:4) – He lied; Eve died (see also 2nd Corinthians 11:14-15). The two longer Scripture passages in the *Scripture Highlight* above should be some of the scariest words in the New Testament for the modern Christian to read. It’s not just that we know Him, but rather that we ask ourselves the question: Does He know us? Read 1st John 2:4 above very carefully. Discuss the importance of all of these Scriptures, share others that you feel might help the discussion, and always remember to study and show yourselves approved (read together 2nd Timothy 2:15).