
Deception and Abiding

Contending with the spirit of deception - week 1

Week 1 - Deception and Abiding
Week 2 - Watch and Pray
Week 3 - They overcame him

Matthew 24:4-14

"See that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will **lead many astray**. ...

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then **many will fall away** and betray one another and hate one another.

Matthew 24:4-14

And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, **the love of many will grow cold**. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:23-25

Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand.

Jesus is clear:

- Many will be led astray
- Many will fall away
- The love of many will grow cold
- Even the elect (Christian believers)

“See, I have told you beforehand.”

The nature of deception

1. The ultimate source of deception is Satan.

Then the LORD God said to the woman,
"What is this that you have done?" The
woman said, "**The serpent deceived me,**
and I ate."

(Genesis 3:13, later affirmed in 2 Cor. 11:3)

The nature of deception

1. The ultimate source of deception is Satan.

And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, **the deceiver of the whole world** — he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

(Revelation 12:9)

The nature of deception

1. The ultimate source of deception is Satan.

You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for **he is a liar and the father of lies.**

(John 8:44)

Biblical Worldview

1. Behind the layers of deception being woven in the world are powerful, often hidden forces that are demonic.

The nature of deception

2. The world and its culture and prophets are a source of deception

For many **deceivers have gone out into the world**, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is **the deceiver** and the antichrist. **Watch yourselves**, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

(2 John 1:7-8)

The nature of deception

2. The world and its culture and prophets are a source of deception

...just as there will be **false teachers** among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies
(2 Peter 2:1)

The nature of deception

2. The world and its culture and prophets are a source of deception

Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence... for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and **all nations were deceived** by your sorcery.

(Revelation 18:21-23)

Biblical Worldview

1. Behind the layers of deception being woven in the world are powerful, often hidden forces that are demonic.

2. The world system, with its cultures and increasingly its single global culture, are a powerful source of deception to the nations and to the church.

The nature of deception

3. Our own hearts are a source of deception

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

(Jeremiah 17:9)

Biblical Worldview

1. Behind the layers of deception being woven in the world are powerful, often hidden forces that are demonic.
2. The world system, with its cultures and increasingly its single global culture, are a powerful source of deception to the nations and to the church.
3. Because of our old, sinful nature, we are susceptible to deception, especially deception that caters to self.

4 ways deception operates

Ways deception operates

1. False apostles, prophets, teachers

And no wonder, for even Satan **disguises** himself as an **angel of light**. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.

(2 Corinthians 11:14-15)

+ New chat

Today

Villain's Religious Ma

Fallen Angels' Technological Tr

New chat

Add Event Listener -

JavaScript Error Checking

Previous 7 Days

New chat

Canadian Military Tests Propa

Tebennissi: St. Pachomius Mon

Previous 30 Days

New chat

Greek Prefix "Anti-"

Input Not Sending Value

PMI explanation

Quantitative Tightening Explai

Foundation Icons Integration

Arabic Learning Webpage

andrew@andrewdempse...

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I am writing a novel in which the villain is attempting to persuade a church full of everyday people into turning away from traditional Christianity and follow a new religion. Help me brainstorm a strategy that this villain could use to influence and shape the beliefs of the churchgoers. What would be some key plot points for this section of the novel?



Absolutely, here's a possible strategy your villain might employ, divided into key plot points:



- Establishing credibility and building trust:** The villain first ingratiates himself into the community as a charismatic figure - possibly as a consultant or a helper. He could help solve a major issue within the community/church or demonstrate some form of 'divine' intervention, thus earning their trust and admiration.
- Capitalizing on existing discontent:** The villain subtly stokes the flames of any existing discontent or dissatisfaction with the traditional ways of the church. This could be anything from outdated practices, lack of community outreach, or any controversial issues the church may be dealing with. This creates a wedge that the villain can use to introduce his new religious beliefs.
- Introducing the alternative:** After identifying and cultivating this discontent, the villain begins to offer an alternative. He introduces new concepts and ideas, claiming they are more aligned with the original teachings of Christianity, better suited for the modern world, or offer a more direct path to salvation. These are positioned not as a new religion, but a more 'pure' or 'real' interpretation of the existing faith.
- Miracles and Predictions:** To lend credibility to his teachings, the villain stages miracles or makes predictions that appear to come true. This further convinces the congregation that he possesses divine power and insight. These events can be carefully orchestrated or manipulated to



Regenerate response

Send a message



Ways deception operates

2. Confusion and loneliness/isolation

Evidently some people are throwing you into **confusion** and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

(Galatians 1:7)

Ways deception operates

2. Confusion and loneliness/isolation

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who **does not change like shifting shadows.**

(James 1:17)

Ways deception operates

2. Confusion and loneliness/isolation

God sets the **lonely** in **families**
(Psalm 68:6)

Ways deception operates

3. Lawlessness

And because **lawlessness will be increased**, the love of many will grow cold.

(Matthew 24:12)

Ways deception operates

3. Lawlessness

They are **darkened in their understanding**, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become **callous** and have **given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity**.

(Ephesians 4:18-19)

**Abiding in truth overcomes
deception**

Abiding in truth

I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. But **the anointing that you received from him abides in you**, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, **abide in him**.

(1 John 2:26–27)

Abiding in truth

I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and **the word of God abides in you**, and you have overcome the evil one.

(1 John 2:14)

Abiding in truth

1. Abide in Jesus (Living Word)
2. Abide in the Scriptures (Written Word)



Daily prayer - week 1

Father, I abide in you and in your lavish love for me today.

Jesus, I abide in you and in your leadership and friendship today.

Holy Spirit, I abide in you and your anointing on me today.

In you I am forgiven by the blood of Jesus.

My identity is settled as your adopted child. I have truth in your Word.

Deliver me from all confusion and deception in the name of Jesus.

Sermon notes and prayers

<https://rb.gy/ww818>

