

# **Many Deceivers**

**3-13-22**

## 2 John 7 (ESV)

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.

**God is warning us of many deceivers that are among us. The world is full of many evil people. These people may be working out of their flesh or even demonically influenced. But these particular deceivers addressed here are called antichrist. This means they will live out their name, Anti/Christ, or against Christ. In this case specifically they deny that Jesus Christ will return to the earth in the flesh.**

## 1 John 2:18 (ESV)

Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come.

**These deceivers have the characteristics of the coming world leader, Satan incarnate, The Antichrist! They will be so nice, so charismatic, so gifted, so sincere etc. etc. **They will have an appearance of godliness but deny Christ's power.** Example Rob Bell, name on Time Magazine's list of 100 most influential people in the world. He pastored a 10,000+. I have listened to several of his videos which were very good. **This man is a deceiver and an antichrist.** The red flag for me was when he said the virgin birth was not an important topic to dwell on.**

**Since then, he has come forward with several heretical teachings. Now most evangelicals have rejected his heretical views. Paul warns us!**

2 Corinthians 11:13–15 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup> So it is no surprise if Satan's servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness.

**These men are revealed as instruments of Satan who disguise themselves as *servants of Christ*. This is because *there are only two opposing spheres—one of Christ and the other of Satan*. Therefore, we see that the main purpose of these people is to usurp true Christian authority, just as Satan tried to make himself like God and usurp the one and only true God as stated in Isaiah 14:13-14. **Beware, Satan's attacks on the church are seldom frontal.** They are more often subversive and carried out by those within the church who misguidedly serve Satan's purpose. Therefore, believers are warned to be very alert.**

2 John 8 (ESV)

Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for but may win a full reward.

**Jesus declares, “Watch out (lit., be looking out for yourselves)!” Every believer needs to be continually alert concerning deception. Our salvation is solid, but we need to watch out that we do not lose the benefit of our work for the kingdom. Such as: (1) all that has been accomplished so far in our Christian lives, (2) the full eternal reward God has prepared for those who remain faithful, and (3) the vital present dynamic relationship we experience with God.**

**This warning also addresses the situation when we are “partially” deceived and so lose some portion of our reward for our past faithfulness and perseverance. Such blessings are received according to one’s labor here on earth. Like David we pray, “Give us the joy of our salvation.” We like the Apostle Paul want to proclaim at the end of our life that we finished well.**

**2 Timothy 4:7 (ESV)**

**I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.**

**Paul says, “I have finished the race.” The emphasis is clearly on the fact that Paul’s race is now over, not just his life, but his ministry. We all want to finish well. Someone asked RT Kendall who is 84 was, what they could pray for him. He said, “That I will finish well.” He fully understood that at no point could a believer drop his guard. We are saved through faith by grace, but there will be a reckoning for our deeds on earth and we need to be alert.**

## 1 Corinthians 3:13–15 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> Each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. <sup>14</sup> If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

### **How much of our work will stand the test of fire?**

**Last week we examined eternal life. Those Christians whose works stand the test of fire will be eternally rewarded. Those Christians whose works are consumed by the fire will themselves escape the flames and will be saved, but they will not receive any eternal rewards from their life on earth.**

**We need an eternal mind set. Our life on this world matters. Beware, there are many deceivers. As the Scripture says, "Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what you have worked for but may win your full reward."**

**Praise Jesus from whom all blessings flow. Be confident and keep it simple:**

## 1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.