



## Do not be deceived...

Mat 3:1-2 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Mar 1:14-15 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

Luk 17:20-21 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, **The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.**

*So, "the time is fulfilled", the Kingdom of Heaven/God is; "at hand" and has been for over 2,000 years. However, the complete manifestation, in the earth, has not yet been apparent in Gods people as He has purposed it to be, to date.*

*Eph 1:17-19 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power...*

It is God's goal that we go on, beyond the elementary doctrines of Christ, to perfection in Christ. It is our individual and corporate destiny in this earth. It is the "end" goal or

purpose that God has purposed for His people in the earth. Then, Him showing forth His righteousness from within our hearts to a dark and dying world and thereby allowing Christ in us to; in fact, be the manifestation of God's wisdom, power and love to the world, through us.

Creation is waiting for this, full, manifestation of the Sons of God. It is the hope of our calling in Christ, **OUR DESTINY**...the hope of glorifying the Father again, in the earth, even as Christ did.

*However, it seems God has chosen to hide this mystery of the Kingdom from some and only reveal it to certain others.*

**Rev 10:4** And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, **Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.**

**Dan 12:9-10** And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for **the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.** Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; **but the wise shall understand.**

The Mystery concealed and only revealed "in Christ" (with conditions).

**Luk 21:8** And he said, **Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them.**

And so it has been. Many deceivers and those Christians who allowed themselves to be deceived, began to show up soon after Pentecost. Not heeding Jesus warnings about leavened doctrine, they embraced and embellished false doctrines regarding "the mystery of the Kingdom". These; declaring themselves to come in the name of Christ, began to preach a leavened gospel that has grown and spread down through the ages as leaven would in bread dough.

And who can separate the leaven (false doctrine) in a wad of leavened dough from the truth?



**Mat 13:41** The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

The truth is the truth, no matter what we believe. However, as the Spirit of God opens the eyes of our understanding in these days, we may discover we have been stumbling over obstacles to the truth in the scriptures which have been placed there by God.

The "strong delusion" described in **2nd Thessalonians 2:11**, is clearly such a mysterious obstacle.

It is clear that this mysterious obstacle, in **2Thes. 2:11** is an obstacle sent by God to those who would not receive the love of the truth. Its purpose was to create a great

delusion in those who reject the truth. This delusion or obstacle was sent by God so as to cause rebellious \***unbelievers** to believe a lie and therefore they would be unable to see the truth. However, sadly, many have stumbled over this type of obstacle down through Church history that has chosen to believe the leavened teachings of others and not seek out the truth for themselves.

\*A born again Christian, a believer in Christ, can also be an "unbeliever" of certain truths.

Therefore, we are without excuse, because we can't say we did not have ample warning, as we will soon see. As true Christians, His truth is ours by promise and it is our rightful inheritance: However, there are conditions to appropriation of the truth:

Joh 8:31-32 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And (then) ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.**

Note; there are conditions to appropriation of the truth which the Church, in some cases, has obviously missed.

The children of Israel had the same basic problem with appropriating Gods promises because they did not heed Gods warnings either and... with similar consequences. They fell away from the truth and accepted false doctrine, in spite of Gods warnings. As a result, they were denied full and complete access to the promises of God. Their history is one of returning, renewal, revival and then falling away, again and again, even unto the day that Christ was revealed to them, by John the Baptist. This also sounds like the history of the Church. This is history repeating itself. Go figure!

Ecc 1:9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

A strong delusion is given by God to those that would not hold "the truth dear" and allow "the truth" to make them free.

2Th 2:9 Even him (**Him**), whose coming is **after** (G2596; "concerning, pertaining to, touching") **the working of satan** with all power and signs and lying wonders,

2Th 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; **because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.**

2Th 2:11 And **for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:**

The "**HIM**" in v9 would be better understood, in context, to mean;

v9 "Even **Him**, (the Lord) whose coming is (pertaining to and because of the) working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.

So it is God who sends the strong delusions that they (those that would not receive the love of the truth) would believe a lie.

Joh 8:31-32 (ERV) So Jesus said to the Jews who believed in him, "**If** you continue to accept and obey my teaching, you are really my followers. You will know the truth, **and the truth will make you free**.

**Please note:** the above promise to those who "believed in Him" was **conditional**.

**The truth will make you free! Free from what?**

At a minimum; free from deception and the consequences of being deceived!

Mat 16:12 Then understood they how that he bade them not **beware of** the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Mar 8:15 And he charged them, saying, **Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.**

Luk 12:15 And he said unto them, **Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.**

Luk 20:46 **Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts;**

1Ti 4:1-3 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving **of them which believe and know the truth.**

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