

THE GREAT DECEPTION

The Antichrist Is Here

*And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceives you. **Matt. 24:4***

Deception is “an act or statement intended to make people believe something that is not true.”

Take heed - pay attention to; take notice of.

*The way to escape deception of any kind is espoused by Isaiah. To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. **Isiah 8:20***

What law and testimony is Isaiah referring to? The law of the ten commandments and the testimony of Jesus.

*And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. **Rev. 12:17***

The testimony of Jesus is clarified in Rev. 19:10.

“And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of the prophets, the Holy Spirit by which the prophets spoke.

“For the prophecy came not in old time by the

*will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” **2 Peter 1:21***

In order to know the Antichrist and we would have to consult the writings prophets who spoke of him.

First we turn to the Apostle John in **1 John 4:1-3**.

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. ² Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: ³ And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

John is telling us that the spirit of antichrist is one which does not believe that Christ is come in the flesh, i.e. the same flesh as ours. And further he is saying that Antichrist is a liar.

*“Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denies the Father and the Son.” **1 John 2:22***

We have two things that help us identify Antichrist according to John: 1. He confesseth, says, that Jesus did not come our same sinful flesh. 2. He is therefore a liar.

So who may this Antichrist be? A careful look around the religions of the world brings to view a system headed by a man with at least one billion adherents which promulgate the false idea that Jesus did not come in the flesh. This is the Roman Catholic church system with the Pope at its head which teaches the false doctrine of the immaculate conception of Mary the mother of Jesus. This doctrine says that she was born free from sin or any of its effects as was Eve when she was created. Thus allowing Christ to be free from the effects of sin in his flesh. Hence the false idea that the flesh of Christ was not like ours, sinful flesh and blood, but like Adam's before the fall, sinless. This is the Great Deception that has been foisted on humanity and been hiding in plain view for centuries.

This false system is also called out by the Apostle Paul in **2 Thess. 2:3, 4.**

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; ⁴ Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sits in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.” But what says the Bible, the infallible word of God, of the human nature of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.” **Rom. 8:3***

*“Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh.” **Rom. 1:3***

*Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;¹⁵ And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. ¹⁶ For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. ¹⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. **Heb. 2:14-18***

Yours in the Service of God

Elder W. Austin Greaves