

3ABN SABBATH SCHOOL PANEL
010 - THURSDAY – JUNE 6, 2024

SPIRITUALISM IN THE LAST DAYS: PART 2

Our hope of salvation is rooted in Christ. His blood-stained hands beckon us to accept the sacrifice so freely provided at infinite cost. Soon Christ will return to claim His own. Titus 2:13 calls the second coming of Christ, “the blessed hope.”

Titus 2:13 (NKJV) “Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

Satan’s goal is to destroy this hope. He will perform miracles, signs and wonders, anything and everything that could lead people away from Bible truth and salvation in Christ.

UNIVERSALITY OF SPIRITUALISM: Revelation 16.13-14 NKJV “**(16.13)** And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the **mouth** of the dragon, out of the **mouth** of the beast, and out of the **mouth** of the false prophet. **(16.14)** For they are **spirits of demons**, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

One Devil – Many Demons – Satan and his angels.
Don’t trust your senses over Scripture.

- 1. Spiritualism: Scriptural misrepresentation:** Genesis 3.1 NKJV “**(3.1)** Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And **he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”**”
- 2. Spiritualism: Subtle deception:** 2 Corinthians 11.3 NKJV “**(11.3)** But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

Romans 16.18 NKJV “**(16.18)** For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.”

- 3. Spiritualism: Spiritual Camouflage:** 2 Corinthians 11.13-15 NKJV “**(11.13)** For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. **(11.14)** And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. **(11.15)** Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”
- 4. Spiritualism: Worship without truth:** 2 Thessalonians 2.9-12 NKJV “**(2.9)** The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, **(2.10)** and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. **(2.11)** And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, **(2.12)** that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”
- 5. Spiritualism: Contentment in place of Commandments:** Mark 7.7 NKJV “And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”
- 6. Spiritualism: Signs without Sanctification:** Matthew 24.24 NKJV “**(24.24)** For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”
- 7. Spiritualism is an alliance with darkness:**

1 Samuel 28.7-10 NKJV “ - (28.7) Then Saul said to his servants, “Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor.” (28.8) So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said, “Please conduct a seance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you.” (28.9) Then the woman said to him, “Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land. Why then do you lay a snare

for my life, to cause me to die?” (28.10) And Saul swore to her by the LORD, saying, “As the LORD lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing.””

Saul sought demonic aid—hid his identity—guaranteed God’s endorsement.

- Saul represents leaders that inspire confidence in Satanic agencies.
 - Saul represents those that teach we can communicate with the dead.
1. Allegiance to God’s Commandments will protect us from the deceptions of Satan:
 - a. (Revelation 14:12 (NKJV) “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”
 2. Truth will be our shield in defense against any of Satan’s deceptions.
 - a. Psalm 91:4 (NKJV) “He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth *shall be your* shield and buckler.”

Hence, the need to be careful of any teaching that, even if accompanied by signs, wonders, and miracles, would turn us away from either of these two characteristics of the remnant.

Satan will seek to duplicate the return of Jesus. He will make it appear that Christ is walking the Earth. His deceptions will be so great that only the elect will be safe. He wants us to ignore the fact that Jesus’s return will be as visible as lightning in the skies.

Matthew 24:23–27 (NKJV) “Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it. (24) For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. (25) See, I have told you beforehand. (26) “Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it. (27) For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.”

Satan will also use false prophets to teach and proclaim that which is not confirmed by the word of God. Uppermost tennis exceptions would be preparation to receive someone that looks like Christ.

Satan will lead men to ignore the truth of God's word, and just lay the foundation for his deception. It is a lack of love for truth that opens the door for the strong delusion.

What do these passages tell us about Satan's deceptive power and manner of working?

Satan has a myriad of methods that he will use to carry out his final onslaught against the truth of God's word, and the people of God.

“Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. Persons will arise pretending to be Christ Himself, and claiming the title and worship which belong to the world's Redeemer. They will perform wonderful miracles of healing and will profess to have revelations from heaven *contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures.*”

“As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. Revelation 1:13–15.”—Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, p. 624.

Why is understanding the truth about how Christ returns, as well as the state of the dead, so important in order not to be deceived?

1. It will prevent us from being deceived by false messages from demons that make us believe they're coming from those that are dead. –
 - a. **Revelation 16:13–14 (NKJV) “(13) And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *coming* out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. (14) For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings of the earth and**

of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

2. We will not be taken captive by the appearance of the antichrist.

- a. **Matthew 24:5 (NKJV) “For many will come in My name, saying, “I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.”**

Isaiah 26.19 NKJV “**(26.19)** Your dead shall live;

Together with my dead body they shall arise.

Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust;

For your dew *is like* the dew of herbs,

And the earth shall cast out the dead.”