

# DECEIT

That which deludes or misleads

## THE WICKED:

1. **Devise: Psalm 35:20**  
“deceitful matters”: means words of deceit  
David is praying that the Lord would not allow the wicked to triumph because their vicious words stirred up strife. They devised wicked accusations against those who wished to live quietly.  
To slander.
2. **Speaks: Jeremiah 9:8**  
Their tongues are deadly arrows or murdering arrows (God is speaking here of His adulterous people).
3. **Are full of deceit: Romans 1:29**  
One in a list of many characteristics of a wicked person. they are filled with all unrighteousness.
4. **Increase in: 2 Timothy 3:13 (re: false teachers)**  
They just get worse. They not only deceive others but they too are being deceived. As we get closer to the end and Christ’s return, it will become worse.

## AGENTS OF DECEIT:

1. **Satan: 2 Corinthians 11:14**  
The chief of all deceivers and all deceit flows from him (the source).  
He tries to transform himself (masquerade) as something he is not. Satan deceived Eve.
2. **Sin: Romans 7:11**  
Sin deceives people by misusing the law.  
The phrase: “deceived me”: means to lead or seduce from the right way
3. **Self: 1 Corinthians 3:18**  
Being “puffed up” in vain conceit (pride)  
Attributing too much to one’s learning and wisdom.  
Worldly wisdom holds one back.  
James 1:22  
If you do not apply God’s Word in regards to what you hear and learn, you are just deceiving yourself. Don’t fool yourself by thinking only hearing it is all that is required.
4. **Others: 2 Thessalonians 2:3**  
If you are not firmly grounded in God’s Word (being a student of the Word), you may be vulnerable to being deceived by others. Test the spirits.

## **WARNINGS AGAINST BEING DECEIVED:**

1. **Among religious workers: 2 Corinthians 11:3-15**  
Paul is speaking of false teachers which he called “super apostles.” They were eloquent speakers, but what they taught were lies. They were servants of Satan.
2. **A sign of apostasy: 2 Thessalonians 2:10**  
People refuse truth for lies. The man of lawlessness with his powers and miracles will deceive those who refused to believe God’s truth.
3. **As a sign of the antichrist: 1 John 4:1-6**  
Warning: do not believe every spirit.  
False prophets who say they have a message from God but is not.  
Test their message with God’s Word.  
Other tests:
  - a. Their commitment to the body of believers: 1 John 2:19
  - b. Their life style: 1 John 3:23, 24
  - c. What they believe about Christ.

## **TO DECEIVE:**

### **In the Old Testament (Examples)**

1. **Eve, by Satan: Genesis 3:13**
2. **Israel, by the Midianites: Numbers 25:18**
3. **Joshua, by the Gibeonites: Joshua 9:22**

### **Of Christians**

1. **By flattering words: Romans 16:18**  
They often draw people to themselves.
2. **By false report: 2 Thessalonians 2:3**  
Don’t allow anyone to deceive you in any manner.
3. **By false reasoning: Colossians 2:4**  
Some will try to use persuasive arguments to deceive and lead away from the truth.

## **FURTHER EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO DECEIVED**

<b>Eve: 1 Timothy 2:14</b>	<b>Pharisees: Matthew 22:15,16</b>
<b>Abram: Genesis 12:11-13</b>	<b>Peter: Mark 14:70,71</b>
<b>Isaac: Genesis 26:6,7</b>	<b>Ananias: Acts 5:1-11</b>
<b>Jacob: Genesis 27:18-27</b>	<b>The earth: Revelation 13:14</b>
<b>Joseph’s brothers: Genesis 37:31, 32</b>	
<b>Pharaoh: Exodus 8:29</b>	
<b>David: 1 Samuel 21:12, 13</b>	
<b>Amnon: 2 Samuel 13:6-14</b>	
<b>Gehazi: 2 Kings 5:20-27</b>	
<b>Elisha: 2 Kings 6:19-23</b>	
<b>Herod: Matthew 2:7, 8</b>	