# OJ August 2020

Join us for

Generation to Generation Women's Conference

**S**eptember 25th & 26th

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> FORTRESS OF JOY CHURCH

#### **Seducing Spirits**

Seduce - to draw aside or entice from the path of morality and duty in any manner, by flattery, promises, bribes or otherwise.

The devil is an observer of human weakness, he studies men in order to discover their lusts. Seduction is a very subtle exercise, in most cases the seducee has no clue what is happening to them. It is commonly reported that prostitution

is the world's oldest profession. There is no way to know how many men and women have been drawn aside with the offer of sex. How many good

marriages have been destroyed because the devil sent a seducing spirit? What appeared to be a "good time" became a painful expensive night of regret.

Mark 6:22 When the daughter of Herodias danced it pleased King Herod and he said, whatever you want I will give it to you.

Herodias encouraged her daughter to ask for the head of John the Baptist. What kind of dance could lead the king to

order the death of the man of God he respected? I don't know what kind of dance she performed but I do know this, it ministered to the lust of King Herod. If you are not tempted by this sort of thing, you don't have the same lust as Herod. The devil has been studying you and he is aware of your personal lusts. Lust is a desire for forbidden things, by the grace of God we can resist all lusts.

know what has happened to them because they can easily justify themselves. They have no problem putting the blame on a church, a pastor, or someone other than themselves. The Bible tells us that there is only one thing that can set free a seduced person, it's the truth, something they don't want to

Acts 20:29-30 I know this, that

ture grievous wolves will enter in among you not sparing the flock. Some of these are you and you will arise and draw disciples after yourselves.

after My depar-

Deceivers are coming and they are here now, we cannot

prevent them from their assignment. We can prepare the flock by building them up and warning them about the tactics of seducing spirits. No matter how much good word we sow, not all of it will fall on good ground! Christians are just like sheep, they need constant tending to because they have a tendency to wonder off and get themselves in trouble. The best way to deal with a seducing spirit is to disappoint them, don't do anything they suggest.



I Timothy 4:1 Now the Holy Spirit speaks clearly, that in the last of the last days, many shall depart from the faith (reliance on Christ for salvation) giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.

Despite this warning from the Lord, many have gone back and no longer walk with their Savior. They feel no pain or guilt because they see they were methodically seduced away by the master seducer. They do not

## The Weakness of Men

We are soldiers in the army of God, to be successful we must learn the strengths and weaknesses of the devil.

A born-again Christian armed with a revelation of Christ is way too much for the devil to handle. He will not confront us man to man, but that does not deter him. He is a good union devil and he is about the business of bringing as much hell as he can into our lives. In the military, soldiers are trained to study the enemy to learn about his strengths and weaknesses. We are soldiers in the army of God, to be successful we must learn the strengths and weaknesses of the devil.

Hebrews 2:14 Jesus through
His death destroyed him that
had the power of death, that is
the devil.

selves. Power is power, it is either good or bad depending on how it's used. Electricity can cook our food or fry a man to death. If we are ignorant of God's Word (Will) the devil can manipulate us to destroy ourselves.

Mark 14:15 The sower sows the Word and satan comes immediately and takes the word that was sown in their hearts.

When I read this
Scripture years ago I immediately wanted to know how the devil can take the word from me. If I could learn his tactics I would discover his weakness. If we continued reading the

that don't exist. And finally, he lies to us, in the Bible this is called the doctrine of devils.

Acts 17:11 These were noble believers, they received the Word with readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were true.

The faith of these folks was too important to allow themselves to be deceived, so they put their trust in the Word. Far too many Christians accept the doctrine of men without searching their Bible for proof! Deception is not inevitable, it is a choice. Jesus said see to it that no man deceive you. Some folks get their feelings hurt if you don't believe them. Well, I would just as soon hurt their feelings before I would be deceived by their doctrine. When I stand before God and He should ask me what I am doing there, I want to be able to answer Him from His Word.

Luke 22:3 Then satan entered into Judas being of the number of the twelve.

Jesus taught His disciples everyday and Judas was in his classroom. Judas was the treasurer and a thief, the devil preyed on his lust and it led him to betray his Master. No matter how close you get to the Lord, it makes no difference to the devil,. He will do his best to draw you away. If the devil knows our weakness, we can go to the Word and fortify ourselves.



The devil is not the demon he used to be, he is still a tyrant but he does not have the power to do what he says. The power of life and death is in our tongues, not in the devil's hand. The devil's strength is his cunning way to get us to speak against our-

text, Jesus will tell us explicitly how the devil raids our heart and takes the word! He uses persecution to discourage us, he amplifies our care to get our minds off of God and His promises. He identifies our lusts and hones in on them to tempt us and he uses deception to get us to accept things

However,

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#### The Great Deceiver

I am a bow hunter and I use every trick of the trade to get as close to an elk as I can. I wear camo, even over my face and hands. My goal is to deceive the elk and lead him to think there is no danger. The devil plays us the same way, he conceals himself and lies in ambush. Gullible prey is his target, he is not a trophy hunter and he will take whosever he can lure in. However, the devil's favor-

Some of them wear dresses and are pretty, others will offer to do anything for you. Offering to help you is a "Christian" thing, but a deceiver will eventually want something in return. A deceiver can become so good at their craft that the deceived will have no idea they are fully deceived. Some people become so engulfed in their deception that they will openly defend the devil. Deceived people will

they can get themselves out of the snare of the devil.

we will gird ourselves up deceive us with his lies. The truth is an essential us to protect ourselves from the wiles of the devil. One day I asked the Lord you know if a man is deceived? His response was: If you're deceived you won't do all the things I command you to do! The Jews thought they were doing God a favor when they determined to kill when He said "You are of

Mathew 24:4 And lesus said: take heed that no man

If a man is deceived, it's because he did-

There are a lot of people who have been taken captive of the devil and they have no clue where they are at! The only one who can spring them is them, but they must first accept the truth because the truth is the key to the prison door. Here is what we can conclude, if

with truth, the devil cannot part of the armor God gave this question: Lord, how do lesus. Jesus called them out your father the devil".

deceive you.

n't pay attention to what was presented to him. Deception is a choice, you can take it or leave it! When Jesus said "take heed", He put the responsibility on us not Him. God knows we can't remember every thing He said, so He commissioned a book to be written that contains everything He said. I know what it is like to live under a cloud of deception and I know what it's like to be free. God said it. I believe it and that settles it.



ite targets are Christians because then he can claim to having stolen something valuable from God.

2 Timothy 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

The devil uses "evil" men as decoys to lure us into his trap, but his "boys" don't appear as evil.

openly march in our cities demanding the right to kill unborn babies under the guise of "reproductive rights". If you confront a deceived person in an attempt to free them, they will fight you. What can we do?

2 Timothy 2:25-26 In meekness instruct those that oppose themselves, and perhaps God will provide repentance for them, when they acknowledge the truth. Then



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### Who Are You Walking With?

When Jesus offers us a covenant relationship, He expects us to honor it every day of our lives. This is not a covenant of convenience, it's a matter of life and death. Jesus came to give us life because the devil is all about killing, destroying and stealing from us. No matter how committed to Jesus you are, the devil never takes a day away from his job to wreck your life. All of us will live in association with God or the devil, they are our only choices.

John 6:66 After this, many of His disciples drew back (returned to their old associations) and no longer accompanied Him.

Most of Christ's disciples abandoned Him because they decided He was too hard to follow. Listen, if

Jesus is too hard to follow it's because your flesh has the preeminence over your spirit. The spirit is indeed willing but the flesh is weak, far too many folks are led by the weakest part of their

being.

If you don't stand for something you will fall for anything.

The purpose of a good church is to build up your spirit so your flesh will subordinate itself. If we are going to walk with Jesus,

our spirit must have the preeminence. Jesus can give us good things our flesh could never provide. He is the one we want to walk with forever.

