

# 1 John 2:26-27 “Deception”

**FINISHING VERSE 18 . . .** by which we know that it is the last hour.

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

**First, a false teacher departs from the fellowship of the church.** *Faith that fizzles before the finish was faulty from the first.*



One must beware of those folks who are so "spiritual" that they can't get along in any church. The imperfect Church is the perfect place to be . . . I always say if you find the perfect Church don't go there because you will wreck it!

22 Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? **the Bible defines Christ - the Messiah, who is fully God and fully man; who perfectly revealed God the Father to us. Deity of Christ is a non negotiable... He claimed to be God!**

**JESUS WAS PRE-EXISTENT**

**JESUS DIRECTLY CLAIMS TO BE GOD**

**OTHERS SAID HE WAS GOD**

**INDIRECTLY CLAIMED TO BE GOD**

**DECLARED DIETY BY HIS TITLES**

22 Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ.

24 Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning.

**The phrase “from the beginning” refers to when John’s readers first heard the gospel and believed. From the beginning it was accepted, taught and believed that Jesus was God! Any deviation from that would be “something new” from which one must leave and return to “WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD FROM THE BEGINNING.”**

**Mormonism... NEW... 1820's Jehovah Witness... NEW 1870's  
ISLAM NEW 610AD**

25 And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

**‘Keep your fork... the best is yet to come.’ PRAY**

**Stand with me as we read our text for today... 1 John 2 verse 26** These things I have written to you concerning those who *try to* deceive you. 27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

**Truth in Love... John was very concerned about the deception that had entered the Church.**

So because John had already addressed the issue of false teachers it's difficult to determine whether he is concluding the previous section or introducing the next... **I think both!** Why? Deception is one of Satan's favorite weapons...

26 These things I have written to you concerning those who *try to* deceive you.

**Deception... VIDEO...** Intentional or unintentional deception is more than entertaining... spiritual deception is deadly... eternal souls hang in the balance.

27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Some have used this verse to say, “If we need not that any man teach us, we don’t need to come to Bible study.”

1. God gave teachers to the Church... Ephesians 4:11-12 - 11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.
2. Paul himself taught daily in the school of Tyrannus ([Acts 19:9](#)),
3. The early church devoted herself to teaching ([Acts 2:42](#)),

We know there are teachers, provided by the Holy Spirit. There is a gift of [teaching](#). So John is not denying the necessity of true teaching. Rather, he is denying the validity of **false teaching**.

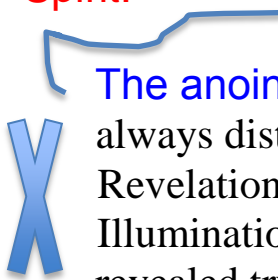


After the resurrection, when our Lord joined the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, he found them troubled and disturbed.

25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. **They had not seen these truths before. They had read these Scriptures many times, but they had never seen that they referred to the Messiah, to the Christ. They still did not know who this stranger was, but now they knew that the Scriptures described a suffering Messiah.**

**Luke 24** 32 And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?" **They were captivated by what they saw, caught up by it, entranced by these magnificent truths. That is what the anointing does.**

The Spirit of God takes the Word of God and opens it to us. **It is an illumination of the mind and the heart, and a deep persuasion from the Holy Spirit.**

 **The anointing of the Holy Spirit as He brings truth to light...** We should always distinguish the doctrine of revelation from the doctrine of illumination. Revelation is completed in Scripture and in the person of Jesus Christ. Illumination is an ongoing process whereby the Holy Spirit illumines this revealed truth to help us apprehend and comprehend it.

**Perhaps you have often had the experience of reading a passage of Scripture a 100 times, having studied it, and perhaps even taught it, but the 101st time it suddenly comes alive with a wealth of meaning that you never saw before, and it simply glows with significance.**

**Again verse 27** But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.



**Let's take a little closer look at John's repeated warning about false teachers and deception...**

**DECEPTION** the act of making someone believe something that is not true.

Middle of John 8:44 "He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it"

**DECEPTION'S SOURCE: SATAN is the source and his tools are false teachers... SATAN** meaning "enemy" or "adversary" He who brings *evil* and temptation, and is known as the **deceiver** who leads humanity **astray**.

Isa. 14:12" How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *How* you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: **I** will ascend into heaven, **I** will exalt my throne above the stars of God; **I** will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; <sup>14</sup> **I** will ascend above the heights of the clouds, **I** will be like the Most High.' <sup>15</sup> Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. <sup>16</sup> " Those who see you will gaze at you, *And* consider you, *saying: Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms,*  
<sup>17</sup> Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities,

As we have already heard from John the most damaging deception is in regards to the identity of Jesus... Hughes notes, "When it comes to the person and work of Christ, false doctrine abounds. His full deity is denied by some, while others deny his full humanity. His eternal nature is denied by some. His substitutionary atonement on the cross is denied by others." The exclusivity of Christ as the only way of salvation is routinely questioned and out rightly denied.

Verse 22... 22 Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ.

**Some deny the necessity of the church in God's program today. Others deny the doctrine of the personal return of Christ to earth. there is no shortage of deception through false doctrine.**

**Deception...** "There is no such thing absolute truth, and thus there can be no "false" doctrine. All viewpoints are equally true as far as many are concerned today."

**That devil is a devil of a devil**

 **Satan will always attempt to get you to doubt two truths** - God's Word and God's love. Always remember what God says is true, and why He says it is because He loves you.

**Twisting God's word... deception is Satan's specialty and his agents are false teachers... it began in the garden with the "Father of all Lies"**

**Genesis 2 verse 16...** God said, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat... **Satan twists it a little and says,** Has God indeed said, "you shall not eat of every tree of the garden" He makes it a negative thus casting shadows on the goodness and graciousness of God. Satan wants to make God look like a cosmic killjoy, **like a stingy hold out...** why not every tree, come on Eve why would God say that? No full blown frontal assault, she might have rejected that. **It's just an innocent question Eve.** Nothing innocent about anything Satan does... Satan's subtle lie has already gone from seed to root and now the fruit... **DECEPTION**



The number one song played at the unbeliever's funeral, **"MY WAY" BY FRANK SINATRA**. Satan is offering Eve the chance to do it "her way". God will allow you to do it your way... **Peek of pride...** I don't need you God... God doesn't send people to hell, they paddle their own boats there. **Their way!**

Verse 6... So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (*the lust of the flesh*), that it was pleasant to the eyes, (*the lust of the eyes*), and a tree desirable to make one wise (*the pride of life*). **"wisdom apart from God's word is foolishness"** she took of its fruit and ate. Heaven gasped, angels stood in disbelief... **God knew in order for love to be real one has to be able to choose.** Eve made her choice...



As John Milton puts it in *"Paradise Lost"*, "Earth felt the wound, and Nature from her seat Sighing through all her words, gave signs of woe... That all was lost" **Paradise lost!**

Francis Schaeffer in the *"Shelter"* said, *"We are locked in a battle. This is not a friendly, gentleman's discussion. It is a life and death conflict between the spiritual hosts of wickedness and those who claim the name of Christ."*

There is a war going on for your very soul... Satan hates you! He wants to destroy you... The thief has come to steal, kill and destroy.

Listen to John White from his biography, *"You have established a new relationship with the powers of darkness. Whatever you were before you were a Christian... you are now a sworn foe of the legions of hell. Have no delusions about their reality or their hostility, but do not fear them. The God inside you terrifies them. They cannot hurt you, but they can still seduce, and they will try. They will also oppose you as you obey Christ. ... you are serious about Christ being your Lord and God, you can expect opposition."*

Colossians 2 verse 4... Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. **The word for "deceived," literally translated, is "to reason beside something."** If the target is the truth, there is something alongside it that looks very much like the truth, and one begins to focus upon that, rather than the truth.

That is one of the favorite weapons of the devil. To be deceived is to think you know that something is right, but it is really wrong. Truth and error look almost the same, **but one is a counterfeit.**

**Surrounded by the counterfeit...** SILK FLOWERS... wow those look real. **FAKE FRUIT IN THE BOWLS...** cubic zirconia diamonds... **EVEN FAKE BODY PARTS!**

*“Truth is so obscured nowadays and lies are so well established that unless we love the truth we shall never recognize it.”*

*~ Blaise Pascal (1623 – 1662)*

*French mathematician, physicist, inventor & writer* So much **counterfeit** around us we are not alarmed by it... If you start regarding them as real you are in trouble. That is what Paul is worried about. **J. I. Packer puts this very well:**

Experience shows that bad theology infects the heart with misbelief and unbelief, the spiritual equivalents of multiple sclerosis! Many who ran well have been progressively paralyzed through ingesting bad theology, and the danger remains. Theological expertise can feed intellectual pride, turning one into a person who cares more for **knowing true notions** than for **knowing the true God**, and that is disastrous, too.

Those who taught these dangerous things among the Colossian Christians were very persuasive. **They could even quote scripture...** don't forget Satan quoted scripture as well. **Lies mixed with truth... would you eat a brownie if it had just a little bit of manure.**

The point of these two verses is simple and clear. False teachers are counteracted by the true teacher, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will never lead anyone to do anything contrary to the Word of God or inconsistent with the Son of God.

Deception defeated by

1. The Bible test. All religious teaching and experience must be measured by the yardstick of Scripture.



2. The second test is the Jesus test. Remember, the Holy Spirit will testify about Jesus and point people to him.
3. The third test is the character test. Does this teaching or religious experience promote godly living? Are those who do the teaching living holy lives?

Remember the words of Billy Graham... "Whenever I am conscious of Satan's presence, I try to follow the formula once offered by a little girl: "When Satan knocks, I just send Christ to the door."

C.S. Lewis one of the most brilliant minds ever to walk this planet never lost the simplicity of looking to Jesus. less than a month before he went home to be with his Savior and Lord he wrote this letter to a little girl,

*"Dear Ruth, many thanks for your kind letter, and it was very good of you to write and tell me that you like my books; and what a very good letter you write for your age! If you continue to love Jesus, nothing much can go wrong with you, and I hope you may always do so."*