

# The Deception of Distractions

## Part 4

- I. Here is the what the word of God tells us is the most important thing we can do in our life and why:

**Ecc 12:13 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.**

- A. Satan is aware of this and uses every tactic that he can to distract us from our major purpose in life.

1. He will use things, people, careers, business, sorrow, self, theories, concepts, ideas or you name it just to keep us from focusing on what God says our purpose should be in life.
2. Whatever excites the curiosity, scatters the thoughts, disquiets the heart, absorbs the interests or shifts our life focus from the kingdom of God within us to the world around us—that is a distraction; and the world is full of them.
3. Remember, this is what he did to Eve.
4. It is also what happened to Martha.

**Lk 10:38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.**

**40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" 41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."**

### DISTRACTIONS MUST BE CONQUERED OR THEY WILL CONQUER US

- B. Jesus warns us about becoming distracted from his word in this life on the way to eternal life by people who will mislead us. They will make a ruin our life here in the world to come.

**(NIV84) Mt 7:15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19**

**Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.**

1. Notice he says prophets. This certainly means people within the church. **What does he show us to let us know he means people in the church?**
  2. He clearly spells that out when he said sheep's clothing.
- C. Many times this will be pastors and teachers that Satan has sent to teach God's people opposite ways of God.  
**(NIV84) 2 Ti 4:3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.**
- D. Knowing this then we are warned of the distractions of these false teachers by Peter:  
**(NIV84) 2 Pe 3:3 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.**

**4 They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." 5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.**

**7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. 8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.**

**10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.**

**11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? *You ought to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.***

**That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. 13 But in keeping with his promise**

we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

**14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, *make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.***

- E. We must be careful to not become distracted. We must remember this is a device of the devil.
1. *You, now named some distractions.*
    - a.

**HOW MANY OF YOU WOULD LIKE TO EXPERIENCE THE VERY BEST THAT LIFE HAS TO OFFER?  
THEN,  
FEAR GOD, STUDY TO LEARN AND DO HIS COMMANDMENTS!**

- F. How can we keep from being distracted?
1. We must learn to rely upon the word of God not our feelings.
  2. We must train ourselves to know the voice of the Holy Spirit by thorough knowledge of his word. This way we can distinguish between the distractions of Satan and the truth of the word of God.
  3. We must learn to be in submission to those God has called.
  4. **His Word: 2 Ti 3:16-17 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**
  5. **His Holy Spirit: Jn 14:26 26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.**
    - a. He reminds you, how can you be reminded of what you never have had in mind?
    - b. He speaks to your mind, not audible
    - c. Why he need not be labored by your ears
    - d. Deep calls unto deep
    - e. It says, "He brings it to mind." That means there's got to be something in there to bring out. That's why you need to get into his book. When you read his book and study his book and fill your mind with his book you are banking the truth in your mind and then the Holy Spirit can bring it to mind at just the right time.
    - f. Sometimes when you read the Bible and go, "I didn't get anything out of it today." You don't have to. You don't have to get something out of the Bible every time you read it. What you're doing is you're banking the truth in your mind. Your mind's filled with everything else you've seen – every billboard, every commercial, every bad joke, every movie.

It's all in there. You need to balance it with the truth. Then the Holy Spirit can bring it to mind in your mind. You're banking God's word.

- G. **His church leaders:** (CEV) Eph 4:11 Christ chose some of us to be apostles, prophets, missionaries, pastors, and teachers, 12 so that his people would learn to serve and his body would grow strong.
  
- H. Life is useless. It has no value if we do not focus on doing the Word of the Lord.
  - 1. It just makes good sense to serve the Lord!
  - 2. Life is more meaningful if we do.
  
- I. We are able to do more in life if God is on our side.
  - Ecc 12:13 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.**
  - 14 For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.**
  
  - 1. There is going to be a judgment. We all have to face God and give an account for the works that we have done in this life.
  - 2. The Scripture says whether good or bad. Jesus said:  
**(NIV84) Re 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.**

**WHAT CAN BE MORE IMPORTANT IN THE WORLD THAN HEARING AND OBEYING GOD?**