“THE DECEITFULNESS OF SIN”

Heb 3:12-13

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

KJV

INTRO. Sin is so deceitful! It promises pleasure, but brings ruin. It promises happiness, but brings heartache. It promises liberty, but brings bondage. It promises the good life, but brings death. It has a hardening effect, making it difficult to escape from its practice the longer we continue in it.

Satan is the master of deception. Rev. 12:10

Subject: Men are led into sin because they are deceived.

1. How Are We Deceived?
2. We should understand that first of all the heart of man is deceitful. Just listen to your heart?????

Jer 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

KJV

1. Sin is like the strychnine that is hidden the delicious looking layer cake.
2. Pet sins are dangerous. It is like the man who kept a beautiful black panther as a pet. People warned him that it was dangerous. One day he heard his young daughter let out a scream. The panther attacked and killed her.
3. Man is not capable of choosing the right way by himself. Man is prideful and easily deceived.

Jer 10:23

O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

KJV

1. We need the Lord to direct our lives. Prov. 3:5-7.

Prov 3:5-7

5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

KJV

1. Man is overtaken by his own lust. James 1:14-15.

James 1:14-15

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

KJV

1. Man is inclined toward being deceived.

Prov 20:17

Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.

KJV

1. The Devil is the Great Deceiver.

2 Cor 11:14-15

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

KJV

Matt 7:15

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

KJV

1. He is a liar.

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

KJV

1. He lied to Eve in the garden.
2. SIN DECEIVES US IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS.
3. Sin offers pleasure.

Heb 11:24-25

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

KJV

1. Many people live for pleasure.

2 Tim 3:4

Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

KJV

1. They seek pleasure in immorality.

1 Tim 5:6

But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

KJV

1. Solomon warned the young men of the pitfalls of immorality.

Prov 5:3-5

3 For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil:

4 But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword.

5 Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell.

KJV

1. Adultery

Prov 6:32-33

32 But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

33 A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.

KJV

1. Sexual immorality is condemned in the scriptures.
2. We are warned in the scriptures “Be not deceived.”

1 Cor 6:9-10

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

KJV

1. People become acclimated to sin. What may have seem repulsive to us at one time becomes commonplace and accepted.
2. Put a frog in a pan of water and bring it to a gradual boil. The frog could easily jump out, but instead becomes acclimated to it and is boiled alive.
3. People are like that with sin.
4. We mellow in our attitude toward sin and are deceived into thinking that God has softened his stance toward sin. God will never give a nod of approval to sin.
5. Another Way that Sin Deceives us---Alcohol & drugs.

Prov 20:1

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

KJV

1. How deceptive is the use of alcohol? We should point out that alcohol is a drug that can lead to addiction.
2. The advertisements show beautiful young people having a fun time drinking, enjoying sports, and one another’s company.
3. They don’t emphasize the havoc that it makes of lives, broken homes, deprived and abused children, or the tangled wreckage of an automobile accident claiming the lives of innocent victims.
4. They don’t show the drunken bum down on skid row, wallowing in his own vomit.
5. Listen to the warning issued in the Proverbs.

Prov 23:29-35

29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes?

30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.

31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.

32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.

33 Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.

34 Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast.

35 They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again.

KJV

1. Sin Promises Liberty. (No Restraints)

2 Peter 2:19-22

19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

KJV

1. “The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23).
2. Only God can give us true liberty from the bondage of sin.

John 8:32-34

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

KJV

1. The Deceitfulness of riches.

Matt 13:22

22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

KJV

1. Riches are deceitful. They become an idol for many leading them away from God.
2. You cannot serve both the God of heaven and the God of riches.

Matt 6:24

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

KJV

1. The love of money will lead men away from the faith.

1 Tim 6:10

For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

KJV

1. For those who love money there will never be enough to satisfy!
2. Riches are elusive.

Prov 23:4-5

Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

5 Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

KJV

1. We should learn contentment.

1 Tim 6:6-9

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

KJV

1. Jesus warned of covetousness.

Luke 12:15

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

KJV

1. The true value of a man is his own soul.

Matt 16:26

For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

KJV

Oh, indeed “Be not deceived!”

1. DECEIVED BY FALSE RELIGION.

2 Thess 2:9-12

Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

KJV

1. Doctrines and Commandments of men.

Matt 15:9

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

KJV

1. Blind leading the Blind.

Matt 15:14

Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

KJV

1. Members of the church are deceived by mistaking the hearing for the doing.

James 1:22-24

22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

KJV

1. Our religion is vain if we fail to control our tongues. (Deceived)

James 1:26

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

KJV

Col 3:8-9

But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

KJV

1. PROCRASTINATION----One of the most successful delusions is that we have plenty of time to obey God.
2. King Agrippa.

Acts 26:28

Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

KJV

1. Governor Felix

Acts 24:24-25

24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

25 And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

KJV

1. The story is told: The devil called all of his angels and asked them for their suggestions to destroy Christianity and cause men to be lost. One suggested persecution, but the devil replied that had already been tried and failed. Another suggested burning all the Bibles, it was pointed out that it had been tried without success. Another stepped forward and suggested, “Let us convince man that he has plenty of time and that there is no need to be concerned.” The devil said, “That will work, go and implement this plan.”
2. Beware of Satan’s devices lest we be deceived.

2 Cor 2:11

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

KJV

1. We should not be deceived by his cunning tactics.
2. Today is the right time to deliver your soul from the stronghold of sin and escape the bondage of Satan.

Heb 3:13

But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

KJV

2 Cor 6:2

………..behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

KJV

Conclusion: Turn to God today. Obey the gospel and be saved from your sins. If you are Christian who has strayed from the fold, return to God today through repentance, confession of sins, and prayer.