

It's Imperative for Believers to Cultivate Bible-Based Discernment

Second Corinthians 4:4 states that Satan is the god of this world. Further, in 2 Corinthians 11:14, the apostle Paul writes: "For even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light."

The enemy doesn't appear before us in his authentic identity. He knows we would easily spot him and recognize the chaos and pain he tries to inflict upon us. Instead, his primary weapon is subtle deception. He comes at us with carefully crafted arguments that stir up our emotions. He often mixes a little truth into the lies he promotes, causing us to question our God-given instinct. He comes back again and again until we are offended and angry. He knows an offended person has compromised judgment.

When he strikes at our ability to assess situations clearly, we are no longer able to discern wisely. The No. 1 vehicle of the enemy today is the media. There is no doubt the media has become the most powerful source of lies, evil and confusion of our time. Why? Because when you control the narrative, you control and deceive the people. If anyone disagrees with the information provided, they are ridiculed, hated and even slandered. The media has become the keeper of twisted morality and truth. Many people look to the news channels more than they look to their Bible. This is a dangerous distraction.

The wicked pretend to champion equality, root for the down trodden and protect the most vulnerable. In reality, they are ravenous wolves in sheep's clothing. Romans 16:18 says that "through smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting." This is not just a reference to false

teachers. We see this behavior form politicians, media personalities, celebrities and people from all facets of society.

Jesus warned us in Matthew 24:4, "Take heed that no one deceives you." This warning is repeated numerous times throughout the Bible. Why do you suppose this is mentioned so often? Could it be He was telling us to keep our eyes open and be prepared to recognize this form of evil?

For the Christian, we are living in a time of self-examination in the light of God's Word. So many are being led by feelings instead of godly discernment concerning the events in this nation. We must stop and question the steady flow of opinions and news being planted in our hearts and minds. We must investigate the other side of the stories and seek biblical truth in every scenario.

If we are moved by our feelings and feed on lies, how will we discern the truth when more birth pains come upon the earth? We have experienced two major birth pains this year: the virus and the election. Future birth pains will most likely become more intense and closer together. Jesus said in Matthew 16:3, "you cannot discern the signs of the times."

Ask yourself, "Have I been siding with evil? Do I really want to know the truth? Am I offended? Has my heart been hardened and my love grown cold? Am I ignoring the signs of the last days when I should be clinging to God's truth?" {eo}

*For more information about **Bill Wiese and Soul Choice Ministries** please visit . You can find more of Bill's teachings at his YouTube channel.*

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