The Power of Deception

*Compiled By:*

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**They conceive trouble, conflict and confusion -** The meaning and dynamic of the Hebrew word *mermah* is a description of those that *execute plans of the devil* – which is *chaos*. It is the characteristic of such men that they form plans that create confusion and fear in their followers, and then execute them anyway. They themselves live in constant debt spiritually, relationally and financially, and must have, chaos around them at all times. They deny and blame their consequences on others, while working a devilish plan to have others pay their debt of misfortune. This is precisely why *mermah* describes the *Six* (actions of man) *Things that God Hates* – SEVEN if you include the act of Satan (deception).

*Therefore his calamity will come suddenly; instantly he will be broken and there will be no healing. There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, SEVEN which are an abomination to Him:*

* Haughty eyes,
* a lying tongue,
* And hands that shed innocent blood,
* A heart that devises wicked plans,
* Feet that run rapidly to evil,
* A false witness *who* utters lies,
* And one who spreads strife among brothers. (Proverbs 6:15-19)

Some of the Greek descriptions of deception are:

1. To use any exercise for pleasure or recreation; to do something not as a task or for profit, but for amusement; as, to manipulate.
2. To lead into a wrong way or path; to lead astray; to guide into error; to cause to mistake; to deceive.
3. To toy; to act with levity with human emotion.
4. To act thoughtlessly – as though desperate.
5. To mock; to practice illusion.
6. To move, or to move with alternate dilatation and contraction.
7. To play another as a fool; to play the woman as an instrument of deception.

Deception

"They conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity, and their mind prepares deception." (Job 15:35)

O sons of men, how long will my honor become a reproach? *How long* will you love what is worthless and aim at deception? Selah. (Psalms 4:2)

Keep deception and lies far from me, Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is my portion... (Proverbs 30:8)

Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we have made a pact. The overwhelming scourge will not reach us when it passes by; for we have made falsehood our refuge and we have concealed ourselves with deception." (Isaiah 28:15)

"Yet in spite of all this her treacherous sister Judah did not return to Me with all her heart, but rather in deception," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 3:10)

"Surely, the hills are a deception, a tumult *on* the mountains. Surely in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel. (Jeremiah 3:23)

Then the LORD said to me, "The prophets are prophesying falsehood in My name. I have neither sent them nor commanded them nor spoken to them; they are prophesying to you a false vision, divination, futility and the deception of their own minds. (Jeremiah 14:14)

"How long? Is there *anything* in the hearts of the prophets who prophesy falsehood, even *these* prophets of the deception of their own heart, (Jeremiah 23:26)

"After an alliance is made with him he will practice deception, and he will go up and gain power with a small *force of* people. (Daniel 11:23)

*There is* swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery. They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed. (Hosea 4:2)

Therefore you will give parting gifts On behalf of Moresheth-gath; the houses of Achzib *will* become a deception to the kings of Israel. (Micah 1:14)

"Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first." (Matthew 27:64)

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. (Colossians 2:8)

And with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. (2 Thessalonians 2:10)

Deceived

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." (Genesis 3:13)

So it came about in the morning that, behold, it was Leah! And he said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? Why then have you deceived me?" (Genesis 29:25)

And Jacob deceived Laban the Aramean by not telling him that he was fleeing. (Genesis 31:20)

for they have been hostile to you with their tricks, with which they have deceived you in the affair of Peor and in the affair of Cozbi, the daughter of the leader of Midian, their sister who was slain on the day of the plague because of Peor." (Numbers 25:18)

"Beware that your hearts are not deceived and that you do not turn away and serve other gods and worship them. (Deuteronomy 11:16)

"Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. And they have even taken some of the things under the ban and have both stolen and deceived. Moreover, they have also put *them* among their own things. (Joshua 7:11)

Then Joshua called for them and spoke to them, saying, "Why have you deceived us, saying, 'We are very far from you,' when you are living within our land? (Joshua 9:22)

Then Delilah said to Samson, "Behold, you have deceived me and told me lies; now please tell me how you may be bound." (Judges 16:10)

Then Delilah said to Samson, "Up to now you have deceived me and told me lies; tell me how you may be bound." And he said to her, "If you weave the seven locks of my hair with the web [and fasten it with a pin, then I will become weak and be like any other man." (Judges 16:13)

Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when your heart is not with me? You have deceived me these three times and have not told me where your great strength is." (Judges 16:15)

So Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?" And Michal said to Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go! Why should I put you to death?'" (1 Samuel 19:17)

When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice; and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, "Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul." (1 Samuel 28:12)

So he answered, "O my lord, the king, my servant deceived me; for your servant said, 'I will saddle a donkey for myself that I may ride on it and go with the king,' because your servant is lame. (2 Samuel 19:26)

But they deceived Him with their mouth and lied to Him with their tongue. (Psalms 78:36)

He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside. And he cannot deliver himself, nor say, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?" (Isaiah 44:20)

Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Surely You have utterly deceived this people and Jerusalem, saying, 'You will have peace'; whereas a sword touches the throat." (Jeremiah 4:10)

O LORD, You have deceived me and I was deceived; you have overcome me and prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. (Jeremiah 20:7)

For I have heard the whispering of many, "Terror on every side! Denounce *him;* yes, let us denounce him!" All my trusted friends, watching for my fall, say: "Perhaps he will be deceived, so that we may prevail against him and take our revenge on him." (Jeremiah 20:10)

For you have *only* deceived yourselves; for it is you who sent me to the LORD your God, saying, "Pray for us to the LORD our God; and whatever the LORD our God says, tell us so, and we will do it." (Jeremiah 42:20)

"As for the terror of you, the arrogance of your heart has deceived you, O you who live in the clefts of the rock, who occupy the height of the hill. Though you make your nest as high as an eagle's, I will bring you down from there," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 49:16)

"I called to my lovers, *but* they deceived me; My priests and my elders perished in the city while they sought food to restore their strength themselves. (Lamentations 1:19)

"The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, in the loftiness of your dwelling place, who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to earth?' (Obadiah 1:3)

For sin, taking an opportunity through the commandment deceived me and through it killed me. (Romans 7:11)

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, (1 Corinthians 6:9)

Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals." (1 Corinthians 15:33)

But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity *of devotion* to Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:3)

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. (Galatians 6:7)

And *it was* not Adam *who* was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. (1 Timothy 2:14)

But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived. (2 Timothy 3:13)

For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. (Titus 3:3)

Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. (James 1:16)

And the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not be heard in you any longer; for your merchants were the great men of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery. (Revelation 18:23)

And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. (Revelation 19:20)

And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Revelation 20:10)

To Deceive

"Why did you flee secretly and deceive me, and did not tell me so that I might have sent you away with joy and with songs, with timbrel and with lyre; (Genesis 31:27)

"You know Abler the son of Nerd, that he came to deceive you and to learn of your going out and coming in and to find out all that you are doing." (2 Samuel 3:25)

Then she said, "Did I ask for a son from my lord? Did I not say, 'Do not deceive me'?" (2 Kings 4:28)

"Thus says the king, 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you from my hand; (2 Kings 18:29)

"Thus you shall say to Hezekiah king of Judah, 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you saying, "Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." (2 Kings 19:10)

'Now therefore, do not let Hezekiah deceive you or mislead you like this, and do not believe him, for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people from my hand or from the hand of my fathers. How much less will your God deliver you from my hand?'" (2 Chronicles 32:15)

"Will it be well when He examines you? Or will you deceive Him as one deceives a man? (Job 13:9)

"The enemy will not deceive him, Nor the son of wickedness afflict him. (Psalms 89:22)

Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, and do not deceive with your lips. (Proverbs 24:28)

"Thus says the king, 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you; (Isaiah 36:14)

"Thus you shall say to Hezekiah king of Judah, 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." (Isaiah 37:10)

"For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Do not let your prophets who are in your midst and your diviners deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams which they dream. (Jeremiah 29:8)

"Thus says the LORD, 'Do not deceive yourselves, saying, "The Chaldeans will surely go away from us," for they will not go. (Jeremiah 37:9)

"All the men allied with you will send you forth to the border, and the men at peace with you will deceive you and overpower you. *They who eat* your bread will set an ambush for you. (There is no understanding in him.) (Obadiah 1:7)

"Also it will come about in that day that the prophets will each be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies, and they will not put on a hairy robe in order to deceive; (Zechariah 13:4)

For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting. (Romans 16:18)

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise. (1 Corinthians 3:18)

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. (Ephesians 5:6)

Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, (2 Thessalonians 2:3)

These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. (1 John 2:26)

And he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. (Revelation 20:3)

And will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. (Revelation 20:8)

The worst case scenario of deception is thinking you’re a born-again Christian when you’re not. Getting through the narrow gate requires one to deny self, self-righteousness, and repent by coming clean of all sin before God. The Key Points below is to assist you in “double checking” your salvation.

*Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it.* (Matthew 7:13)

KEY POINTS OF DECEPTION:

* Judas Tragedy = people who hang around Jesus, or His people, but actually belong to Satan.
* Read Matthew 25:1-13
* What is genuine repentance? When we preach the true gospel we have more warfare within the church than within the world.
* Satan pushes for a false sense of assurance in “so called Christians.” They pray the prayers, feel the feelings, go to the meetings, say all the right words and truly believe they belong to God – Satan accomplishes Matthew 7:21-27.
* Self-deceived people fail to do self examination. If someone doubts their salvations they tend to get defensive instead of being thankful that someone is “checking them out.”
* Self-deceived people use “grace” to pacify sins and mask their sins with “God’s love.”
* Read 2 Corinthians 13:5 and 1 Corinthians 11:27
* Warning: Bible studies (religious activities) do NOT produce or prove individual salvation.
* Deceived people use the “fair exchange” approach, like, thinking they are a good person or they balance sin with something “good.”
* SUPERFICIAL: I was saved as a child, but NO commitment. Involved just enough to be dangerous.
* FAKE CHRISTIAN: Show up on Sunday and back to the evil worldly ways on Monday. They are not just deceived but they DECEIVE others!
* INVOLVED: Just enough theology to be dangerous. Want to be there for the “by-products” of faith (prosperity doctrine), the benefits of Salvation.

If you found yourself under major conviction reading this document, find yourself more committed to Christian activities than having a personal relationship with Christ, living off someone else’s Christianity, or find yourself overindulging in Grace in order to sin – you might not truly be saved. I encourage you to pray daily by asking God to reveal to you true Salvation. He will!