

DEALING WITH DECEPTION

Matthew 25:31-34, 40, 46 & John 16:7-11 • February 13, 2022

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INTRODUCTION:

A. As good and evil exact influence we experience a daily battle.

B. Ultimately we will eternally reside in either Hell (all evil) or Heaven (all good).

- We all believe in Double Predestination.

- ◆ **Heaven** (John 14:2-3)

- In the presence of God and His joyous glory (Jude 1:24)
- Glorified bodies (I Corinthians 15:42-44)
- Immortal (I Corinthians 15:53)
- We will have all of our needs satisfied (Revelation 7:16-17)
- No more suffering or pain (Revelation 21: 3-4)

- ◆ **Hell** (Matthew 25:31-46 & Mark 9:43-48)

- A place of emotional/relational torment (Matthew 8:12)
- A place of physical torment (Mark 9:43-48)
- A place of spiritual torment (2 Thessalonians 1:9-10)

- ◆ **God determines our destination** (Matthew 25:31-33)

- It is all about Jesus (John 14:6)
- **Not the deception** of our goodness (Romans 3:22)
- **And not the deception** that we are our own judges. (Acts 17:30-31)

“...because if I (Jesus) don't (go) the Advocate (The Holy Spirit) won't come... And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgement. The world's (great) sin is that it refuses to believe in me.

Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more.

Judgement will come because the ruler of this world (Satan) has already been judged.”

— John 16:7-11

I. WE HAVE TO IDENTIFY OUR IDOLS

A. Everyone worships something or someone!

“You shall have no other gods before me.”

— Exodus 20:3

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything you see and pride in our achievements and possessions....And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave.

But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

— 1 John 2:15-17

II. WE HAVE TO GET OUR ACTS TOGETHER

A. Are we complacent?

Jesus to the lukewarm church of Laodicea: “You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ But you do not realize that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.”

— Revelation 3:17

B. Being obedient is the best way to live.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation – but it is not to the flesh...

you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

— Romans 8:12-13

...and do not give the devil a foothold.

— Ephesians 4:27

- We need confession, repentance, surrender and accountability.

CONCLUSION: