

These Perilous Times
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"Beware of Evil Spirits"

"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world." I John 4:1 NKJV

Jesus states in Matthew 24 that one of the signs of the last days is: "...many false Christ's and false prophets shall arise and deceive many." (Matt. 24:4, 5, 23, 24).

What does this mean for us?

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

**Counsel from God's inspired messenger
(Agency of Evil Spirits)**

"Evil spirits in the beginning created sinless, were equal in nature, power, and glory with the holy beings that are now God's messengers. But fallen through sin, they are leagued together for the dishonor of God and the destruction of men. United with Satan and his rebellion, and with him cast out of heaven (See Rev. 12:1-9) they have, through all succeeding ages, co-operated with him and his warfare against the divine authority... None are in greater danger from the influence of evil spirits than those who, notwithstanding the direct and ample testimony of the Scriptures, deny the existence and agency of the devil and his angels. So long as we are ignorant of their deceits, they have almost inconceivable advantage; many give heed to their suggestions while they suppose themselves to be following the dictates of their own wisdom..."¹

¹ E. G. White. *The Illustrated Great Controversy*, pp. 511-517.

“The word of God declares that when it suits the enemy’s purpose, he will through his agencies manifest so great a power under a pretense of Christianity that, ‘if were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.” (Matt. 24:24². ³

How do we avoid being deceived!

“...Search the Scriptures daily...” is the admonition given by Paul in Acts 17:11 to be sure if what is being propagated is Scriptural truth.”

Counsel from God’s inspired messenger

“Perilous times are before us. Everyone who has a knowledge of the truth should awake, and place himself, body, soul, and spirit, under the discipline of God. The enemy is on our track. We must be wide awake, on our guard against him. We must put on the whole armor of God (Eph 6:10-18). We must follow the directions given through the Spirit of Prophecy. We must love and obey the truth for this time. This will save us from accepting strong delusions... Our watchword is to be, ‘To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isa. 8:20). Take the Bible as your study-book. All can understand its instruction. Christ calls upon His people to believe and practice His word. Those who receive and assimilate this word, making it a part of every action, of every attribute of character, will grow strong in the strength of God.” ⁴

“Finally, my brethern, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles/ tricks of the devil.”

Ephesians 6:10, 11 KJV



³ White, Last Day Events, p. 155.

⁴ White, Gospel Workers, pp. 308, 309.