

STUDIES IN TITUS  
"The Significance of Truth"  
Part 24 -- A Review  
July 26th, 2015

## INTRODUCTION

The world system has, is and will always perpetuate false concepts about the way life really is. Christ stated during his earthly ministry: "**And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved (the) darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**" (John 3:19) Two-thousand plus years later, that fact has not changed, nor will it change. The world has been in a state of deception from the time of the fall of Adam. That state will continue. Lies are key to the deception. Satan is perpetually deceiving men from seeing the truth of the way things really are. An understanding of this fact is central to the believer living out God's quality of life without being corrupted by a world that is deceived. Today, we will consider the impact of lies upon the way things really are.

### I. THERE ARE SEVERAL HEBREW AND GREEK TERMS FOR LIES IN SCRIPTURE.

- A. There are several Hebrew words used for truth in the Old Testament.
  1. The primary Hebrew word is kazab which means to "**to impose upon or deceive, in affirming, assuring, promising; of those who flatter sinners, and promise them life; or in professing regard; to reprove of lying, to convict of falsehood; knavish lies, intended to deceive and cheat; hence what deceives and disappoints expectations.**" -- Wilson's Old Testament Word Studies.
  2. Shequer is a another word used which means "fraud, vanity". -- Wilson's Old Testament Word Studies
- B. The Greek word for lie is pesudomai . cf. Acts 5:3
  1. "**To speak falsely or deceitfully, utter falsehood, lie**". -- Thomas Green
  2. Context of Scripture -- to intentionally make an assertion that is contrary to fact with the intent to deceive. cf. Matt. 5:11; Acts 5:3
- C. There are various terms used in Scripture to not the emphasis of the verbalization of lies.
  1. The mouth speaks it (shequer). Ps. 63:11
  2. The tongue is used (shequer). Jer. 9:3,5
  3. Satan speaks it. John 8:44
- D. God is not the author of any lie.
  1. No lie is out from the truth. 1st John 2:21
  2. God is not able to lie. Num. 23:19

3. It is impossible for God to lie. Heb. 6:18

II. LIES HAVE A DEVASTATING EFFECT UPON THE CONDUCT OF LIFE UPON THE EARTH.

A. Lies distort reality. cf. John 8:44

B. Lies undermine trust in God and plan and purposes.

1. Lies hindered Israel in their trust of Jehovah. Ps. 40:14

2. Lies are hindering the Gentiles in their trust of God. cf. Jer. 16:19-20

C. Lies can have an emotional effect upon men.

1. Lies make the righteous sad (kawab -- sad, to feel pain, grieve) Ez. 13:22

2. Lies make the wicked strengthened. Ez. 13:22

3. Lies can cause weariness. Ez. 24:12

D. Lies turn men from truth. Tit. 1:14 cf. Ps. 40:4

1. Lies cause men to err. Amos 2:4; Jer. 23:32

2. Lies cause men to trust in things outside of the Lord. Jer. 28:15; 29:31

III. LIES DECEIVE MEN FROM SEEING THINGS THE WAY THAT THEY REALLY ARE.

A. Satan uses various methods to convert lies into forms palatable for men to be deceived.

1. Satan uses doloo methods to deceive men.

a) Doloo is a word that "**primarily signifies to ensnare; to corrupt, especially by mingling the truths of the Word of God with false doctrines or notions, and so handling it 'deceitfully'.**" -- Vines Expository Dictionary cf. Matt. 26:4 (of the Jews method of capturing the Lord)

b) Doloo was used by Satan at the tower of Babel to deceive men. Rom. 1:29; cf. Gen. 11:4

c) The false teachers in Corinth exemplified this method. 2 Co. 4:2 cf. 2 Co. 11:13 (the false apostles in Corinth are characterized as)

2. Satan uses apate methods to deceive men.

a) Apate is "**that which gives a false impression, whether by appearance, statement or influence.**" -- Vines Expository Dictionary

b) Things can give a false impression. Matt. 13:22 (riches); Eph. 4:22 (the believer's position in Adam)

c) Satan's deception of Eve illustrates his ability to deceive men through false impression. 2 Co. 11:3; 1st Tim. 2:14

B. The outcome of Satan's methodology is that men are caused to wander (planao).  
Rev. 12:9

1. "Deceiveth" is the Greek word plano which means to "to go astray, wander". -- Vines Expository Dictionary
2. The noun form of planaio is contrasted with "truth" in Scripture. 1st John 4:6; Ja. 5:19; 1st John 1:8; 4:6
3. Satan uses men to deceive those outside the Church. Rev. 20:3
  - a) Through the use of the world system. Rev. 18:23
  - b) During the Tribulation Period he will use miracles. Rev. 13:14; 19:20
4. Satan uses men to deceive those inside the Church. Eph. 4:14
  - a) John noted the problem in Ephesus. 2 John 7;
  - b) Those whom Satan uses are themselves deceived. 2 Tim. 3:13; 1st Tim. 4:1

C. Satan deceived men at the Tower of Babel that life could be lived independent of God. Rom. 1:25

1. "Changed" is the Greek word metellazo which is made up of two words:
  - a) Meta -- **with, alongside**
  - b) Allazo -- **to change, alter, transform** cf. Acts 6:14 (of the customs of Moses); 1st Co. 15:51-52 (of the glorified bodies)
2. "Into" a lie is better translated "by means (the 'en' preposition is used instrumentally) of "the lie".
3. The result of Satan's deception is that man worships things outside of the true and living God.
  - a) "Worshipped" is the word sebazomai (Aor. Pas. Ind.) -- "**to feel dread of a thing; to venerate, adore, worship.**" -- Thomas Green (passive notes they were caused to venerate as a result of their changing of the truth)
  - b) "Served" is latreuo -- "**to serve, to render religious service or homage.**" -- Vines Expository Dictionary cf. Rom. 12:1; Heb. 9:6

#### IV. PUNISHMENT WILL BE METED OUT TO THOSE WHO REFUSE LOVE OF THE TRUTH. 2 Thess. 2:10

A. The phrase "love of the truth" is used only in this context in Scripture. vs.10

4. The phrase love is "ten agapen" -- the love.
  - a) Love is used of self-sacrifice from God. cf. 2 Thess. 3:5; 1st John 3:16
  - b) Agape can be used in Scripture to denote "**value, esteem; faithful towards; to delight in.**" -- Thomas Green. cf. Matt. 23:6 (of the pharisees loving the uppermost rooms at feasts); Lk. 20:46 (of the scribes loving greetings)

5. "The truth" is pertaining to the good news
  6. "That" is the Greek preposition "eis" with the infinitive noting the purpose for receiving the love of the truth -- that they might be saved.
- B. The result of those not believing the love of the truth leads to further deception. vs. 11
1. The use of the phrase "because of this" (dia touto -- **on account of this thing -- a phrase used to denote the reason for activity on God's part**) cf. Rom. 1:26
  2. God sends them a "strong delusion". vs. 11
    - a) "Strong" is the word for energeian -- **a working, energizing**
    - b) "Delusion" is (belonging to) planees -- **error, deception**. cf. 1st John 4:6 cf. 2 Chron. 18:18-22
  3. The deception results in the fact that they believe "the lie".
    - a) "To believe" is the aorist infinitive of pisteuo -- "to believe". cf. Acts 14:1; Heb. 11:6
    - b) "The lie" -- man can exist independent of God. cf. Rom. 1:26

## CONCLUSION