

## Detecting the Deceiver (2 Corinthians 11:2-15)

### *Spiritual Warfare – Part 1*

Life Church St. Louis – June 28, 2015

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

*Ephesians 6:12 (NIV) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

*2 Corinthians 2:11 (NIV) in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.*

*2 Corinthians 10:5 (NIV) We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

### 1. Be on guard against \_\_\_\_\_

*2 Corinthians 11:2 (NIV) I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.*

#### 1A. Don't be led \_\_\_\_\_ by Satan

*2 Corinthians 11:3 (NIV) But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.*

#### 1B. Don't listen to those teaching a \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus

*2 Corinthians 11:4 (NIV) For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough.*

### 1C. Listen to those with \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge

*2 Corinthians 11:5-6 (NIV) But I do not think I am in the least inferior to those "super-apostles." I may not be a trained speaker, but I do have knowledge. We have made this perfectly clear to you in every way.*

### 2. Listen to those with godly \_\_\_\_\_

*Matthew 7:15-16a (NIV) "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them.*

#### 2A. Beware of those who live \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyles

*2 Corinthians 11:7-8 (NIV) Was it a sin for me to lower myself in order to elevate you by preaching the gospel of God to you free of charge? I robbed other churches by receiving support from them so as to serve you.*

#### 2B. Listen to those who know and love you

*2 Corinthians 11:11 (NIV) Why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!*

### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ those who are false teachers

*2 Corinthians 11:13 (NIV) For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, masquerading as apostles of Christ.*

#### 3A. Distinguish between true and false \_\_\_\_\_

*2 Corinthians 11:14 (NIV) And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.*

#### 3B. Expose those who \_\_\_\_\_ to be godly teachers

*2 Corinthians 11:15 (NIV) It is not surprising, then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.*

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## Study Guide

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Intro. In what ways are many believers unconcerned about spiritual warfare?

Why are we often confused about who our enemy is (Ephesians 6:12)?

When might Satan outwit us as believers (2 Corinthians 2:11)?

What keys to spiritual warfare do you see in 2 Corinthians 10:5?

1A. What is God's goal for your life (2 Corinthians 11:2)?

1B. How does Satan attempt to lead believers astray (2 Corinthians 11:3)? Explain how the example of Eve's deception by the serpent has parallels today.

1C. What does it mean to preach another Jesus, receive a different spirit or different gospel (2 Corinthians 11:4)?

1D. Why do so many listen to "super apostles" who are polished, entertaining speakers, rather than those with true biblical knowledge (2 Corinthians 11:5-6)?

1E. According to God's Word, who should you listen to for spiritual instruction? What are the pitfalls of listening to all kinds of preachers that you do not know?

2A. Why is it important to inspect the fruit of teachers and preachers (Matthew 7:15-16)?

2B. What does an extravagant lifestyle of a preacher tell you about him and his teaching (2 Corinthians 11:7-8, 1 Timothy 6:5)?

2C. Why is it important to be taught by someone who knows and loves you (2 Corinthians 11:11)?

2D. How can you discern the motives and character of a preacher?

3A. Describe the characteristics of a false teacher based on 2 Corinthians 11:13.

3B. In what ways does Satan masquerade himself as an angel of light today (2 Corinthians 11:14)?

3C. How do false teachers masquerade as godly teachers (2 Corinthians 11:15)?

3D. How can you warn those you know who are being influenced by false teaching?