

**How to Avoid Deception  
Shine in a Dark World – Part 7**  
Life Church St. Louis – June 6, 2021  
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker  
Message Videos – [www.lcstl.org/messages](http://www.lcstl.org/messages)

2 Corinthians 11:3 (ESV) *But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.*

Matthew 24:4-5 (NIV2011) *Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many.*

1 Timothy 4:1 (NIV2011) *The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.*

## 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of self-deception

Jeremiah 26:2 (ESV) *"Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word.*

Jeremiah 26:3 (ESV) *It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds.*

Jeremiah 26:8 (ESV) *And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, "You shall die!*

Jeremiah 26:9 (ESV) *Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant?'" And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.*

## 2. Discern \_\_\_\_\_ teachers

Jeremiah 28:10-11 (ESV) *Then the prophet Hananiah took the yoke-bars from the neck of Jeremiah the prophet and broke them. And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus says the LORD: Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all the nations within two years." But Jeremiah the prophet went his way.*

Jeremiah 28:15 (ESV) *And Jeremiah the prophet said to the prophet Hananiah, "Listen, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, and you have made this people trust in a lie.*

Jeremiah 28:16 (ESV) *Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Behold, I will remove you from the face of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have uttered rebellion against the LORD.'*

## 3. Beware of \_\_\_\_\_ messages

Jeremiah 29:19 (ESV) *because they did not pay attention to my words, declares the LORD, that I persistently sent to you by my servants the prophets, but you would not listen, declares the LORD.'*

Jeremiah 29:30-31 (ESV) *Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: "Send to all the exiles, saying, 'Thus says the LORD concerning Shemaiah of Nehelam: Because Shemaiah had prophesied to you when I did not send him, and has made you trust in a lie,*

Jeremiah 29:32 (ESV) *therefore thus says the LORD: Behold, I will punish Shemaiah of Nehelam and his descendants. He shall not have anyone living among this people, and he shall not see the good that I will do to my people, declares the LORD, for he has spoken rebellion against the LORD.'*

### Action Plan for This Week

- Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Jeremiah 26, 28, 29)  
 Mon  Tue  Wed  Thu  Fri  Sat  Sun

Invite a friend to attend the service next week.

How will I obey God's Word this week? \_\_\_\_\_

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# How to Avoid Deception Study Guide

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Intro. How did the serpent deceive Eve in the garden of Eden (2 Corinthians 11:3)?

Intro. Why did Jesus warn us about being deceived before He returns (Matthew 24:4-5)?

Intro. What is behind the deception of our time (1 Timothy 4:1)?

1A. Why did God send Jeremiah to speak to the people of Israel about the coming disaster (Jeremiah 26:2-3)?

1B. Why do you think that the people wanted to kill Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:8)?

1C. What made Shiloh an ideal example of what would happen to Jerusalem if the people did not repent (Jeremiah 26:9)?

1D. In what ways are people today susceptible to self-deception (2 Timothy 4:3)?

2A. Why did the people of Judah like the message of the false prophet Hananiah (Jeremiah 28:10-11)?

2B. How did Jeremiah point out the danger of this false prophesy (Jeremiah 28:15)?

2C. How did God back up Jeremiah's words and prove Hananiah a false prophet (Jeremiah 28:16-17)?

2D. How can involvement in a Spirit-filled church protect you from deception?

3A. How did not listening to God's true messengers set Judah up for deception (Jeremiah 29:19)?

3B. How does Jeremiah's reaction to the false prophet teach us how to deal with false prophets today (Jeremiah 29:30-31)?

3C. Why does God deal so severely with those who deceive His people (Jeremiah 29:32)?

3D. How can we avoid giving false hope to those who do not know Christ and are on the path toward God's judgement?