

The Three Eternal Destinies #134 *Deceiving the Nations, Part 1*

Satan, however he can, by whatever means, in any way, endeavors to deceive the whole world. Rev 18:23 is one of his chief ways and means. Rev 18:23; 19:2 – Deceived and led astray to corrupt the whole world. Rev 18:4 is the last call before Rev 18:8 comes upon Christianity. Satan deceives all those who will not respond to this last call. Jn 9:41; Rev 19:2-3 – Their guilt remains still; forever and ever her smoke goes up from her burning, incurring the same punishment as her teacher (2 Cor 11:15). *Deceive* means to lead astray from life. Rev 12:9; 20:3,8 – God did not intend for man to go to the second death (Mt 25:41). The second life, after the first death, was God's intention for man after man fell in the garden (Heb 9:27).

So, who are the Sons of Disobedience? Were Adam and Eve? Cain was, but Seth was not, nor was Abel. Who are the children of wrath? The inevitable end of the sons of disobedience is to come under God's wrath.

To do so one must be led astray from something else – another path, another way they are on. Jn 3:18,36 — Not until one rejects and disobeys the Son of God is the person *judged* “already” worthy of the Lake of Fire (Acts 13:46), not worthy of eternal life in Messiah (Mt 10:38). That is, he could not entrust Himself to anyone who is not worthy of Him (Jn 2:23-25).

Fallen Short

A son of disobedience is one who deserves the second death, not just one who sins, for every one sins, but not all sin like Satan sinned. Not all deserve Satan's punishment (Mt 25:41,46). Mt 25:46 shows the difference between the man who retains the original glory of God's highest creature and the man who became degraded by his choices, going against that which he knew was wrong (Gen 3:22).

Paul said all men have sinned and fallen short of his original glory. All men have *fallen short* (define). That means, not *all the way* to where man no longer reflects God's image. If so, then God was silly to expect depraved mankind to keep the everlasting covenant of Isa 24:5-6, which is Gen 3:16-19 and 9:1-7. God did say Gen 3:22 *after* the Fall, and this does not sound like *total depravity* to anyone in his right mind, or at least still holding to a degree of his original glory. Obviously Augustine and Calvin became totally depraved before they came up with their “doctrine of demons.”

Since all men fell into sin, all men must die once, but not all men must die twice (Heb 9:27), because the judgment will determine the destiny of all mankind who appear before the throne of God (Rev 20:12-15). This will determine a second life or a second death, according to whether a man has fallen again from the second covenant in Gen 3:16-19. That is what Rom 2:14-15 says. Then a judgment will be a second death (verse 16). Job 34:11-13, as Rom 2:6-11 says, and Gen 18:23,25, all point to God's *goodness* and His *graciousness* and His *compassion* (Ex 33:19) as being without partiality. He will be good, gracious, and compassionate upon those who will respond to Him in thankfulness (Ps 116). Jn 7:17 – He has compassion on those who are willing to do His will and purpose (Isa 53:10-11; Mt 10:37-38; Mk 10:28-30; Lk 14:26-33; Jn 3:36). And He will also be compassionate upon those who never heard the gospel but lived according to the everlasting covenant.

Glory

The worth or glory that God originally gave and intended for man before the Fall demanded the respect of all other creatures. All men lost and gave up that glory to various degrees of degradation, and he continues to lose it daily as he makes his choices. To be worthy of Him as Mt 10:37-38 is to be redeemed by the blood of the Lamb of God back to man's original glory that he fell from. This is so that man now could be *one with one another as God is one* in His glory (Jn 17:22).

The reason for division, war, strife, hatred, and alienation is because of Rom 3:23, as man falls short of the glory of God to greater and greater degrees. Man could now either obey his conscience or not. By obeying his conscience he would not fall into greater loss of his original glory. There could be no war between two people who obey their conscience. But also, no matter how men obeyed their consciences, they could not be *one as God is one*. This takes redemption. This is the difference between the *Righteous* of the world and the *Holy* in Rev 22:11. The glory man lost is re-gained in Messiah. He grants His Spirit to all who are

worthy of Him, or worthy of His same glory – the glory the Father gave Him.

The reason men on earth are deceived is because they are fallen and given into sins that cause further faithlessness and division, and even war, murder, etc. Jn 9:41 and Rev 19:2 is Christianity today. Not one Christian has made himself worthy of Messiah. Not one has been brought back to the glory of Messiah since the First Church fell. She fell just as Eve was deceived (2 Cor 11:2-4). Since the fall of the church the false gospel has been preached to the entire world (Rev 18:23; 19:2; Jn 9:41). It is false since they do not have the (intended) glory of Messiah (Jn 17:22). This is the reason there are hundreds of divisions from strife, etc. She has become as Rev 18:2,5, even as the world of man has become since Adam fell.

The worth of God's highest creature, MAN, was even the very image and likeness of God Himself, so all creatures including man himself would honor and respect one another, and be one as God was one, as Gen 1:26-28 says, and even as Psalm 8 speaks of man as worthy to rule over all created things in the universe. But man fell from his original glory and worthiness, but was still expected to live by his conscience and all who would do so were worthy of a second life instead of a second death (Heb 9:27). Those who would honor their own conscience would be worthy to be given the same mandate back as in Gen 1:26 in the eternal age in Rev 20:12-15; Rom 2:14-16; and Rom 2:6-10.

But this is speaking of the category of the righteous in Rev 22:11 and all who were not worthy of this second life must be confined to the second death, which is the first category in Rev 22:11. This is because they gave into the kind of sins that degraded them to become the filthy and the unjust. Their names were not found in the Book of Life, but the names of the righteous were found, since they both were judged according to what they had done (Rev 22:12). The unjust and filthy had lost their glory while the righteous had retained their glory. But the Holy Spirit gained the glory of Messiah – the Second Adam.

This was the very glory of God, plus eternal life by eating of the tree of life, which fallen man could do no other way except by hearing the good news of it. Gen 2:22-24 was fallen man's state until they could hear the good news, which could take away their sins and redeem them to their former state of conscience, plus seal them with the Spirit of God forever and ever.