

## ACCOUNTED WORTHY TO ESCAPE

*"But know this, that in the last days grievous times will be at hand. For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, braggarts, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural feeling, unyielding, slanderers, without self-control, savage, haters of good, betrayers, reckless, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness, but denying the power of it - even turn away from these. For of these are those...being led away by various lusts, always learning, but never being able to come to a full knowledge of the truth. But in the way Jannes & Jambres withstood Moses, so also these withstand the truth, men having been corrupted in mind, found worthless as to the faith" (II Timothy 3:1-9)*

In this article we will examine what it means to be deceived and how THE TRUTH can set you free. To begin, let's briefly review the 2 men Jannes and Jambres who determined to oppose the truth that Moses was giving to God's people:

*"And these teachers fight truth just as Jannes and Jambres fought against Moses. They have dirty minds, warped and twisted, and have turned against the Christian faith" (Paraphrase from the Living Bible - II Timothy 3:8).*

The Holy Scripture points out these two men for very specific reasons. First, it shows they were in a partnership against Moses and Aaron. Together, Pharaoh selected these two Egyptian "magicians" to challenge the TRUE POWER of the message Jehovah had ordained them to deliver. They opposed the Word of God sent through His anointed servants; which was to bring freedom and deliverance to His people who were in deep bondage. (NOTE: The forces of darkness did not want the Redemption of God's people THROUGH HIS WORD. Redemption means, not only release from slavery and suffering; but also, deliverance to freedom and joy! - readers should take the time to read Exodus 7:9-13 to fully understand the story).

In the above portion of the New Testament we have the Apostle Paul instructing Timothy of the true character of these men. As a way to teach Timothy, he highlights them thousands of years later as a prime example of unholy opposition. Evidently these two didn't care very much for what God was commanding Moses to say and do. Through the workings of demonic forces, they tried to out-do and to out-smart the power of the Holy Spirit of the Living God. When they saw that their attempt failed, they were upset; and Pharaoh's heart became even more hardened at the message Moses was sent to deliver.

One of the first things we must get a clear perception of through Paul's example is that there will be those among the people of God: religious leaders who will have *"a form of godliness"*...just like Jannes and Jambres. They will portray a power and strong illusion by exhibiting very convincing evidence before the people of God. By claiming to know and understand the truth most will follow their leading. Paul emphasizes their true character as *"having a form of godliness...and always learning, but never coming to a full knowledge of the truth."*

Now here we are, thousands of years later, studying Paul's exhortation to Timothy. (Everyone who claims Jesus Christ as Redeemer should be sitting up and taking notice!) In Matthew 24 the Lord gives a CLEAR warning to HIS DISCIPLES regarding the Endtime deceptions that will be prevalent within the Church leadership:

*"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."*

(Matthew 24:4-5)

LISTEN CHURCH - WAKE UP! YOUR OWN SAVIOR IS SPEAKING TO YOU! Jesus points out, that in the last days MANY SHALL BE DECEIVED. Many will be going into the Tribulation Period as a result of thinking their leaders were rightly dividing the Word of God. Instead, they present a very POWERFUL ILLUSION - they possess the same "Rod of Power" as Jannes and Jambres. Likewise, they PURPOSE TO SUBDUE THE TRUE MESSAGE OF GOD'S WORD. If the Holy Ghost has given you ears to hear this warning you should be quivering deep inside your heart! This is SERIOUS and it is so serious, because it is SO DECEPTIVE. Yet, through the gift of discernment by the power of the Holy Spirit, Paul shows how to distinguish "the true" from "the false." He makes some key points for the sincere believer to take note of.

While most Church leaders today possess a good knowledge of the truth, they have NEVER MATURED to the FULL KNOWLEDGE of the TRUTH. They have fallen asleep to the true faith because their thinking patterns and reasoning regarding the workings of righteousness have been suspended. Having a form of godliness, they have failed to follow through on their own sanctification. As a result, they have NO TRUE UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN OVERCOMER. This is why it is SO SERIOUS. They have hardened their hearts to the workings of righteousness, by willfully choosing to ignore the Word of God and are not moving forward in tenderhearted, humble faith and obedience to gain the sanctification of their souls. Because they have not come to the FULL KNOWLEDGE of the Truth, they lead others astray through their ignorance. Surely, they love and care for God's people; however, their hearts are "focused" on this world--as a result they are forever learning, but never reaching a "proper" maturity in the faith. By not properly following through in the pure Word of God, they will NOT be FULLY sanctified!

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By not properly listening and following God's Word, the leaders have chosen to NOT follow through. Through the teachings of these leaders there has developed "a lukewarm doctrine" that has hardened the hearts of most believers. The BLESSED HOPE has almost been removed from the hearts of the Endtime Church!

In speaking to His disciples, Jesus tells us how to be ready when He returns:

*"And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth."*

*"Watch ye therefore, and pray<sup>1189</sup> always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."*

(Luke 21:34-36)

The Lord Jesus is telling us to pray<sup>1189</sup> for our own sanctification and the honor of being able to become HIS BRIDE and stand unashamed in HIS Presence. These instructions are aimed at the Church just prior to the Lord's return. (Strong's #1189 = want, desire, ask or BEG) **How many Church leaders are teaching this to their congregations today?**

Paul's instruction to Timothy makes it clear the time will finally arrive when those who WITHSTAND THE TRUTH will reap the fruit of their foolishness. Those who seek to uphold and teach incorrect doctrine are blinding the lukewarm Church with a colorful net of illusion which in reality is a false form of security. The leaders have turned a deaf ear to the very warnings of our Lord; they have challenged the Word of God and given heed to the seducing cares of this life!

How very, very sad that things have reached such a disappointing stage of development within the Church. Everything is RIPE FOR JUDGEMENT, and once the Rapture of the Bride of Christ takes place, the foolish virgins will be shut out. They will beat and pound on the door, but it will be too late! They were foolish because they did not: "BEG CHRIST" for the very SANCTIFICATION OF THEIR SOULS.

After the Rapture, a true battle of the faith will ensue. Once reality kicks in, the foolish will begin to understand that by following their leaders, they were deceived. They will begin to realize that they themselves are responsible for their own predicament because they had misappropriated the message of grace delivered to them for their own sanctification.

If they had truly loved the TRUTH and studied their Bibles, they would have been prepared. That is why the book of Revelation ends with the phrase: "*the Spirit and the Bride say come.*" The Bride is the "Sanctified" Believer in Christ who yields to the working of the Holy Spirit by following God's Word:

*"Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and RECEIVE with MEEKNESS the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the WORD, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." (James 1:21-22)*

Remember also, Jesus' wonderful prayer to the Heavenly Father:

*"Sanctify them through the truth: thy word is truth..." (John 17:17)*

Sanctification is a process. It takes time and meekness before the Lord. It requires a heart that is tender before the Lord that wants to please Him out of obedience to the very Word of God. By doing what the Word says, the Bride of Christ is in the process of sanctifying their souls. Because they have kept His Word, God promises to keep them from the time of trouble that is about to begin:

*"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." (Revelation 3:10)*

**FINAL WATCH**

*"But as the Days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.....BUT KNOW THIS, that if the goodman of the house (RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF THE CHURCH) had*

*known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house (his congregation) to be broken up" (Matthew 24:37&43).*

Jesus has told HIS PEOPLE in what WATCH, He is COMING in and what we are to DO. He tells us to WATCH, to LEARN a LESSON and to KNOW these things. We are living in the WATCH when Jesus is getting ready to come. The religious leaders at the time of Jesus missed their Messiah because of their hardened hearts. In like manner, the religious leaders: "*goodman of the house*" of today are asleep. They need to wake-up before it is too late!

We are in the final WATCH, and Jesus is getting ready to return. Because the leaders of the churches are not watching, Jesus has chosen others who will be faithful:

*"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing." (Matthew 24:45)*

God has his selected few who do understand what it means to be an overcomer. They are "*working out their own salvation with fear and trembling,*" because they LOVE Jesus and want to please Him.

May God use the message of this website to awaken many in the Church to the lateness of the hour and the seriousness of the current situation.

May the Lord Jesus Christ give each and every heart a divine outpouring of supernatural faith in order to be ready when He comes. Remember, we are not talking about your free gift of salvation (Heaven) through faith in God's Son. We're talking about the personal responsibility of each believer to press toward the mark of the HIGH CALLING (Sanctification) in Christ Jesus, and being "WORTHY TO ESCAPE" the coming Tribulation.

The Bride of Christ is the faithful Believer who is deemed worthy to escape, and to enter into the Millennial Reign of the Messiah. The Kingdom of God is at hand! Wake up Church; it is much, much later than you think.

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Be absolutely honest with yourself. If Jesus called you home today, would you be prepared to meet Him? If you are not sure, you need to start getting serious about your relationship with Jesus. Good works, church attendance, or being a good person will not get you there. A vital personal relationship with Jesus Christ as the Lord of your life is the only way. Why not make the following prayer, the prayer of your heart right now:

"Dear God in Heaven, I realize that I have not been living my life for you. I humbly turn to you right now and ask you to forgive me. Dear Jesus, please rule and reign in my heart and life. Please help me live for you for whatever time remains. I pray that I may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that I may be able to stand before you when you return. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen"

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