

# Simplicity that is in Christ

## 2 Corinthians 11



# Satan's power to deceive

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”



2 Corinthians 11:3

# Another Spirit

“For if he (Satan) that cometh preacheth another Jesus, who we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received...



...or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.”

2 Corinthians 11:4

# Satan transforms

Satan can transform himself into an angel of light in order to deceive.

Lucifer was seeking to usurp the role of Christ by appearing to Adam and Eve as the "Messiah."

Hebrew word for "serpent" is "luminous" or "shining."



2 Corinthians 11:14

# Ministers of Righteousness

--those who deceive--

Without the proper priesthood authority, those who follow Satan may pretend to be ministers of light for the same purpose.



Priest's of Baal



“...it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

2 Corinthians 11:15

# Book of Mormon--Korihor

Korihor deceives many Nephites



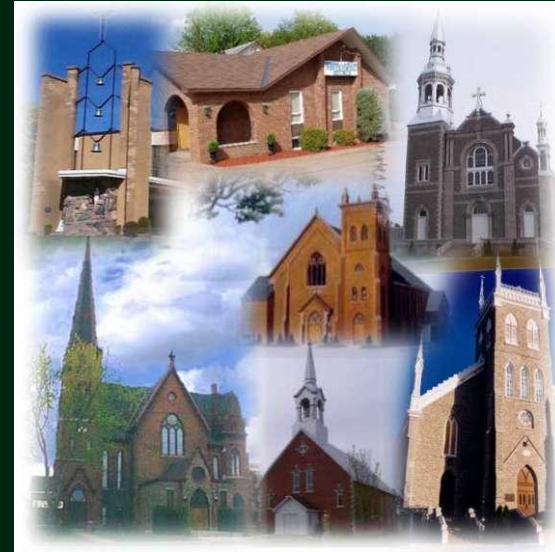
“...But the devil hath deceived me; for he appeared unto me in the form of an angel...”

Alma 30:50-53



# The future

“For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.”



“No man nor sect of men without the regular constituted authorities, the Priesthood and discerning of spirits, can tell true from false spirits.” —Joseph Smith

Mark 13:6

# Finding your own God

“Many men are depending upon their own research to find out God...they are not seeking for the Spirit of the Lord; they are not striving to know God in the manner in which he has marked out by which he may be known; but they are walking in their own way, believing in their own man-made philosophies, teaching the doctrines of devils and not the doctrines of the Son of God.”

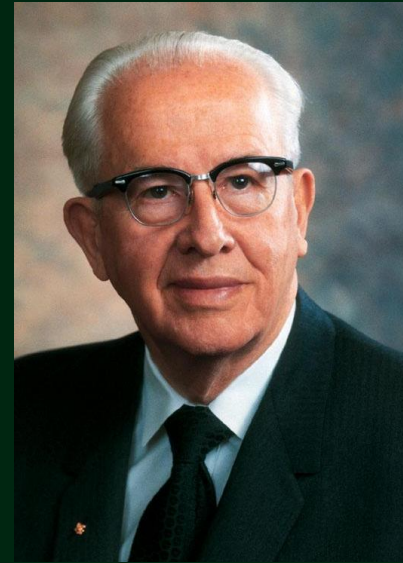


Joseph Fielding Smith



# Deceptive Teachings

“Today the world is full of alluring and attractive ideas that can lead even the best of our members into error and deception.”



Ezra T. Benson

# Wise as Serpents

“Therefore, be ye as wise as serpents and yet without sin; and I will order all things for your good, as fast as ye are able to receive them. Amen”

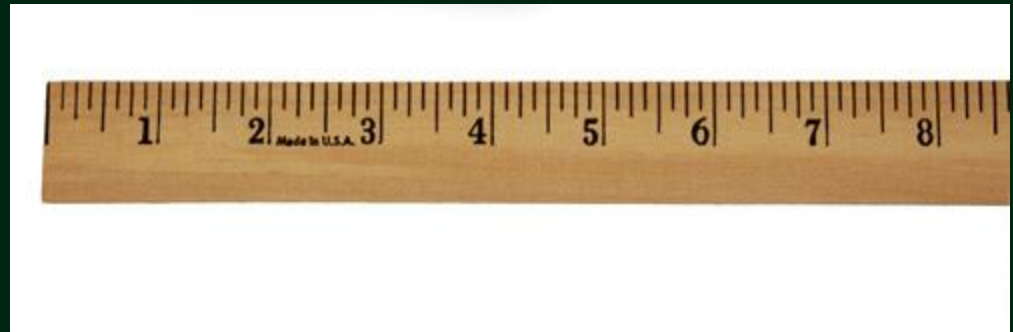


“We wrestle against the rulers of darkness....against spiritual wickedness in high places.” —Ephesians 6:12

D&C111:11

# Discernment

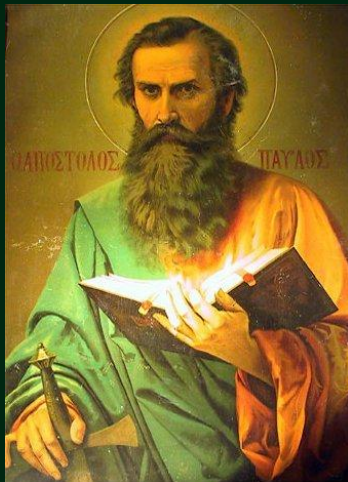
“The best yardstick to use in discerning the worth of true knowledge and learning is to go first and foremost to the words of the Lord’s prophets.”



Ezra T. Benson

# The Holy Spirit as our Guide

Using the scriptures and the prophets and the Holy Spirit as a guide can help eliminate the many deceptions that Satan has revealed to us.



Paul was teaching the saints how to discern between false prophets and the true living gospel of Christ.

## Sources:

Joseph Smith “Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith” page 213

Joseph Fielding Smith “Doctrines of Salvation” vol. 3 pg. 275

Ezra T. Benson “The Teachings of Ezra Taft Benson” pg. 302, 303