

Ancient Deceptions Part 1

Three strategies of warfare against the believer:

Accusation
Temptation
Deception

Deception is when the word of the evil one finds a place to access and move in our hearts. Once he finds an access point, he can deceive by insertion of a lie or a doubt. He will also seek to undermine any previous truth that we have believed. (We keep what we have acted upon—James 1:21-25)

- When we consider deception—we tend to consider what comes **out** of our mouths—rather than what enters **into** our heart. (Deceiving rather than being deceived)
- Deception works like an infection. (It really is like cancer—becoming imbedded and permeating our mind and state of well-being)

Untreated heart wounds make us vulnerable to the ‘infection’ of deception.

The deceiver takes advantage of heart wounds and to remain undetected until our heart is cleansed and healed by the Holy Spirit. If deception is not recognized, we will act on it—keeping it—establishing a foothold/stronghold (advancing the enemy’s territory and influence).

Keys: Allow the Holy Spirit access to search our heart
Interrogate what you believe to be true
Confess (agree with Spirit of God)—past wounds, ways we have dealt with pain, state of our heart toward the one who wounded us.
Repent of our ways of responding to pain
Invite the Comforter to cleanse, heal, comfort you—return to joy
Renew the mind—Word of God —Ephesians 4:22-24, Romans 12:2
Be on guard—Ephesians 6:16-17

Our Protection:

- Loving the Truth—II Thessalonians 2:7-13
- Knowing the Lord’s voice—John 10:3-8, Matthew 4
- Wear His armor—guard your heart—watch over it with all diligence—Ephesians 6:13-14, Proverbs 4:23
- Warning at the end of the age: Do not be deceived—you will bring forth fruit for death Matthew 24:4-5, II Thessalonians 2:3-13)

Case Study: Isabelle

- Deceived by pain due to rejection, abandonment
- Orphan mentality
- True identity masked by bitterness and anger
- Hatred is a barrier to hearing and healing
- Interrogate beliefs (whatever we believe to be true, acts as though it is true to us)
- Lies exchanged for truth as revealed by the Holy Spirit result in freedom, true identity