

Christ Apostolic Miracle Ministry Sunday School

Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 1

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Introduction

In the beginning the Lord saw how bad the people on earth were, and everything they thought and planned was evil. God perceived that the human beings on the earth were depraved, and their imagination is evil continually. God observed that human evil was out of control, and the extent of human wickedness was great. People thought evil, imagined evil, and performed evil from morning to night; according to the scripture which says, “Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” **Genesis 6:5**. It is time to examine yourself if your thoughts and intentions are totally evil; you must desist because there will be consequences.

God did not spare the ancient world, but protected Noah and his family. During the time of Noah, God did not have pity on the ungodly people of the world; instead, He destroyed them with a flood. If you want God to preserve your life in this sinful world, erase every trace of deceit and wickedness from your heart. It is inevitable for you to be honest and righteous in all your dealings; if you want to escape judgment and punishment. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, “And did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of the eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.” **2 Peter 2:5**. You must evangelize, and keep a clear conscience before the Lord; if you want to be rescued from your problems.

The only way to be saved is to stop deceiving people and abstain from every form of wickedness; because if you deceive people, you too will be deceived. Nowadays, people in the world are deceiving one another, and they are leading many astray. The evil people who pretend to be what they are not become worse; and as they fool

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others, they too are fooled. Remember that anyone who wants to live all out for Christ will have trouble from others; because of their honesty and godliness. However, the unscrupulous con men who are parading themselves in the world will continue to exploit faith. They are as deceived as the people they are leading astray. The scripture testified to this fact by saying, "But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." **2 Timothy 3:13.**

You are warned: Today, I set before you a blessing and a curse; blessing if you are honest with a clear conscience before God; curse if you are deceitful and wicked. You have a choice; if you want the Lord to bless you, do what is right; and if you want Him to put a curse on you, continue with your deceitful lifestyle. Today, I have brought you to the crossroads of Blessing and Curse. We pray that you will make the right choice; according to the Bible passage which says, "Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse." **Deuteronomy 11:26.** Give your heart to your Creator; in order to live a blessed and peaceful life throughout your existence.

Today, I ask heaven and earth to be witnesses. We are offering you life or death, blessings or curse through this publication. We pray that you will choose life; so that you and your descendants will live. There are witnesses to the choice that you make today; so choose life and blessings by abstaining from deceitful acts and evil. The Book of Deuteronomy attested to this fact by saying, "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live." **Deuteronomy 30:19.** It is time for you to stop all your deceptive acts, fraudulent activities, and immorality.

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Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 2

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

God is displeased by deceitful hearts

Wickedness that was widespread on earth is of great concern to the Lord. Every inclination of the human mind is nothing but evil all the time, and it is worrisome to Almighty God. The deception that is rampant among mankind and their cunningness is bothering God to the extent that God was sorry that He made the human race. The Book of Genesis confirmed this fact by saying, “And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.” **Genesis 6:6.**

After the Lord was heartbroken, He destroyed the ancient world but when He smelled the aroma of Noah’s sacrifice, He changed his mind concerning mankind. God resolved not to destroy every living thing on earth again with waters of the flood, and he made an eternal covenant with every living creature; using the rainbow as the sign of the covenant. **Genesis 9:9-17.** Up till now, people did not change but continue with their deceitful acts/plans and wickedness.

Shut your heart to deceptive things: Mankind refused to fill their hearts with good things that are the delight of God; instead, they continue with their nauseous way by filling their hearts with deceits, wickedness, and evil. It is for this reason that Satan is exploiting this nefarious conduct of humans, and he is using deceit, selfishness and greediness at this end-time to cause the downfall of humanity.

It is rare to find honest people: Today, spouses are deceiving one another, and they are loyal to their marital vows; to the extent that spouses are seeking the downfall of each other, and they are implicating one another because of hidden motives or agendas. Numerous children in the world are using deception to deal with their parents, and countless of them are plotting the demise of their parents

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because of possessions, or heritage. Likewise, the parents in certain parts of the world are using their children for diabolical things like 'money ritual purposes, or in order to gain terrestrial powers' to better their own lives.

Even family members are full of deception because of inheritance, and friends are deceiving and betraying one another. Nowadays, it is rare to find people who did not permit deceit and wickedness to be paramount in their minds, or reign in their hearts. Honest people with integrity are rare to come by; so beware, else you will be deceived in a manner that can jeopardize your life. Which means, there is no one who cannot deceive you except God.

Liars and deceivers belong to Satan: Whenever people exhibit wickedness towards you; do not take it to heart since you must not see evil in God, because anytime you see evil in humans created in the image of God, you have seen evil in God. Therefore, pray to God to expel the contrary spirit that is working in such a person's life, and change the wicked person to a decent individual. It must be noted that liars and deceptive people belong to Satan immaterial of their confession or profession; immaterial of their post or position in the church; or their status in the society or the community.

Anyone who is not truthful, but practices lusts, wickedness and evil is not of God. Jesus Christ cautioned about this issue in the Book of John by saying, "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." **John 8:44.** Until you abstain from lies and every form of deception; you are still under the sway of Lucifer, and you cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven unless you repent.

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Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 3

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Deceit is the norm of the day

Nowadays, lies and deceits are the usual pattern of social behavior throughout the world. The situation is so severe to the extent that people have to falsify many things about their lives; in order to become celebrities, or distinguished in their States/Communities. Today, people are condoning deceits and immorality; in order to realize their aspirations. Everyone is after his/her interest to the extent that they are associating with the wicked people to achieve their goals.

Mankind is trampling on the truth and making it ineffective; in order to realize their ambitions, or to gain political positions. Countless people are making friends with the crooks, and they are using lies/deceits to cover the truth. Many are pledging allegiance to the evil doers; because of wealth, or profit, or promotion in their chosen career. The people who knew the truth always keep mute, and allow lies and deceits to reign; because of benefit, or gain.

It is a common occurrence today for the leaders of the Nations to talk about violence; then speak lies to mislead and deceive the populace of their countries. Humans immaterial of their age, educational status, and financial status do not stop their mouths from speaking evil; and they do not hesitate to tell lies or plan deceits. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, “When you saw a thief, you consented with him, and have been a partaker with adulterers. You give your mouth to evil, and your tongue frames deceit.” **Psalm 50:18-19**. Is your tongue full of lies and deceits because of reward, or benefit?

The tongues of numerous people are like sharp razors that are working deceitfully. Are you among those people whose tongues

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devise wickedness? It is time to stop planning brutal crimes with your lying words. You must cease making up deceptive things, and thinking evil plans. It is inevitable for you to end using your deceits to ruin other people, and inventing lies; according to the Book of Psalms which says, “Your tongue devises destruction, like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.” **Psalm 52:2**. Are you an expert of deception?

The pastors are involved in deceits: The false prophets are involved in using the name of God to deceive and lead people astray. These so-called prophets are giving false prophecy based on the deceit of their minds. Even the counterfeit pastors who are claiming to speak for God, are lying; because God did not speak to them, or choose them to be His prophets; so, whatever message these pastors are delivering is their own imaginations.

The Bible attested to this fact by saying, “And the Lord said to me. ‘The prophets prophesy lies in My name, I have not sent them, commanded them, nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing and the deceit of their heart.’”

Jeremiah 14:14. Beware of the prophecy of the pastors or prophets that are not appointed by Almighty God; so that you will not be misled. Be careful of the messages of the pastors who are using the name of God to cover their lies or deceits; because of gain/rewards; so that you will not be denied admission into the kingdom of heaven.

At times, it is people who will ask the prophets not to prophesy to them what is right; instead, the prophets should speak pleasant and smooth words. They will ask the prophets to prophesy deceitful illusions that they will enjoy. People always influence the pastors financially, or through their conduct not to speak the truth, but just tell them what they want to hear; even if it is false. Nowadays, numerous people are attending Church Services to hear what will make them feel good; thereby encouraging their pastors to tell lies and deceits. The Book of Isaiah confirmed this fact by saying, “Who say to the seers, ‘Do not see,’ and to the prophets, ‘Do not prophesy to us what is right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits.’” **Isaiah**

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30:10. Are you among those who are telling their spiritual leaders not to bother them with irrelevances? Have you ever told your pastor not to waste your time on impracticalities, but say things that will make you feel better? Change before it is too late.

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Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 4

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

People prefer deceit than acknowledge God

Nowadays, humans did not see it fit to acknowledge God, or consider Him worth knowing as their Maker. Numerous people in the world refuse to think about God who is searching their hearts; instead, they pay attention to their survival. Today, people will rather concentrate their energy on accumulating wealth than seeking the true knowledge of their Creator. The knowledge of God is unimportant to the majority of the populace of the world; because of their smartness and financial status.

It is for this reason that God quit bothering mankind and let them run loose; so, humanity keeps inventing new ways of wrecking lives. God gave the transgressors over to a depraved mind to do improper things. Indecency is rampant in the world today; because of those who think it is not worthwhile to acknowledge God, so they are doing inappropriate things. Are you among those who think it is foolish to acknowledge God? Change immediately, else God will abandon you.

The heart of humans is filled with vices, and deceit is like a second nature to mankind. People throughout the world are performing nefarious activities at an alarming rate, and their thoughts are against the statutes of the Lord. The Bible testified concerning this fact by saying, “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder; strife deceit...” **Romans 1:28-31**. Are you one of the people performing unmentionable deeds; because of your intelligence, or position? Are you a slave of your degenerated mind? Repent before it is too late.

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God alone searches the heart: God alone has the capability to search the heart of humans through His Spirit that makes them to be alive. The Spirit of God that made mankind living souls is the lamp of the Lord for searching and examining the innermost parts of living beings. God searches our hearts through our thoughts and conscience. What do you think will happen to you if your thoughts are evil? If God illuminates the depths of your heart today, what will He find? Do you know that your conscience is the Lord's searchlight that is exposing your hidden motives?

Inasmuch as God is in charge of human life; He is watching and examining them inside and out. So, you cannot hide from God; because you will be found through the thoughts of your heart; according to the Book of Proverbs which says, "The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart."

Proverbs 20:27. Therefore, purify your heart; because the Lord's light can penetrate your spirit and expose your hidden motive.

It must be noted that whenever you misbehave, God will discover; because He knows the secret of your heart. If you conduct yourself foolishly, don't you think God knows? Since God knows what is in your heart, expel every trace of deceit from your heart. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "Would not God search this out? For He knows the secrets of the heart." **Psalms 44:21.**

Seek the impartial God wholeheartedly: It is time to seek impartial God who investigates the hearts of humans. Inasmuch as the heart is hopelessly dark and deceitful; a puzzle that no one can figure out. However, God who is not biased searches the heart and examines the mind; He alone has the power to get to the heart of humans and get to the root of things. He will treat everyone as they really are and not as they pretend to be. Do not forget that after investigating your heart, God will give to everyone according to their deeds and how they have lived.

The best thing is to purify your heart; because you will be rewarded according to what your motives and actions deserve. The Book of

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Jeremiah attested this fact by saying, “I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.” **Jeremiah 17:10**. Do not delay or procrastinate but seek God today with a pure heart.

You need to realize that you have to seek God with a pure heart before you can find Him. Deep longing is a vital necessity for you to find your Creator; because God will be with anyone who worships Him wholeheartedly. When you get serious about finding God, and you want it more than anything else; you will not be disappointed; because He will reveal Himself to you. The Bible confirmed this fact by saying, “And you will seek Me, and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” **Jeremiah 29:13**. Are you searching wholeheartedly for God? Do you fill your heart with the deceitful things of this world, or the living words of God? Time has come for you to change.

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Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 5

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Fraud and deceit are rampant in the world

Today, deceit is an unpleasant thing that is flourishing throughout the four corners of the globe. Fraud and deceit are spreading unchecked to the fabric of society. People are desecrating their souls uncontrollably with lies and deceptions; and humans are mortgaging their souls at an alarming rate to Satan through deceptions.

This vile conduct cuts across all age brackets; because both young and old people are involved. The poor and the rich are not exempted from this horrible behavior. Though deceptions and lies have been in existence since ages, the situation is getting worse and deceit is making this world to be a dicey place to live.

People are not truthful: Nowadays, most of the wealthy people use their positions to oppress, harass, intimidate, exploit and bully the poor; however, everyone is not telling the truth. Some people may be telling half-truth in order to deceive, while some will be giving alternative truth, which is deception. Deception has turned the world upside down, to the extent that every aspect of human life is deceitful. There is nothing that humans are doing that they cannot underestimate or over exaggerate to suit their own purposes and deceive others.

At times when an incident or accident happens, people will downplay the reality; in order to deceive others. So, the earthlings are speaking lies on the Television, Internet, including their utterances, and their tongues are deceitful in their mouths; according to the scripture which says, “For her rich men are full of violence, her inhabitants have spoken lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.” **Micah 6:12.** Are you one of the people who are used to lying, and their tongues can no longer tell the truth?

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Many transactions are plagued with fraud: The majority of the transactions in the world are plagued with fraud. People are deceiving and taking advantage of one another. People are giving little, and taking much from others. They are using deception to deal with one another; because of gains, rewards and benefits. The employees are deceiving their employers by not doing an honest day's work; while the employers are using deception to deal with their employees by denying them their rights/dues; or giving them lesser benefits than they deserve. Even the big corporations are deceiving the populace through the fine prints, to entrap the gullible people.

The Book of Amos mentioned this conduct by saying, "When will the New Moon be past, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may trade wheat? Making the ephah small and the shekel large, falsifying the scales by deceit." **Amos 8:5.** Are you cheating others by falsifying documentations, or through other means of deceit? Do you amass your wealth through deception or corruption? Change before your nemesis catches up with you.

God does not condone deceitfulness: The pleasures of this world and the deceitfulness of riches are what is suffocating the living Word of God in the lives of countless people. The worrying about the needs of this life, and the desire to get rich at all cost is what Satan is using to deceive the Beloved, and lure them away from God. Do not be fooled by the deceitfulness of wealth and the distractions of this world; If you want to be fruitful in your Christianity journey. Be warned, so that the false appeal of riches, and the seduction of wealth will not deceive you, and make you stray from the faith.

The only way for the Gospel to be meaningful and fruitful in your life is to shun the love for riches and the illusions of wealth; according to the interpretation of the parable of the Sower, which says, "Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful." **Matthew 13:22.** You need to see through

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the façade of Lucifer; else you will be seduced by deceitfulness. Make a resolution today, that any form of deceitfulness will not make you stray from the presence of God.

Inasmuch as God will not justify deceptive conduct; abstain from frauds and deceits. Anyone who acts dishonestly will not be guiltless before God, and such a person will not be acquitted. Whatever the circumstance, God can neither approve fraudulent deeds; nor condone deceitful relationships. You need to realize that God cannot tolerate or forgive people who cheat others through deception. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "Shall I count pure those with the wicked scales, and with the bag of deceitful weights?" **Micah 6:11.** God will not overlook the sin of fraud and deceit. Your Creator will never tolerate shady deals and shifty schemes. Are you among the rich that are bullying their way with bluffs and deceits? Repent before it is too late.

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Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 6

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Deceit makes prayers not to be answered

Many Christians are in limbo because their prayers are not answered. This uncertain period of waiting on the Lord has made the faith of countless Believers to wane. The Lord neglected the prayers of this category of people because of their deceitfulness. Inasmuch as God will not pay attention to the cry of the unjust; so, any prayer of the sham people will not be answered. God will not listen to the prayers of the dishonest people.

Therefore, if you want God to give you a favorable answer to your prayers, it must not come out of feigned lips; according to the scripture which says, “Hear a just cause, O Lord, attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer which is not from deceitful lips.” **Psalm 17:1**. If your prayer is not from guileless lips, you cannot receive anything from God; instead, you will be in limbo.

You need to realize that only the clean-handed people can climb the mountain of the Lord, and the pure-hearted alone can enter or stand in His holy Temple. The people who do not practice dishonesty and deceitfulness are the ones who can come into the presence of God; and the prayers of such people will be answered without delay. You must not make false promises, or swear deceitfully; if you want to be given the opportunity to come into the presence of Your Creator.

The Book of Psalm corroborated this fact by saying, “Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully....” **Psalm 24:3-5**. If you want your prayers to be answered and be blessed beyond human comprehension; abstain from every form of deceit. For you to be blessed and receive the assistance of the heavens; you must depart

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from deceitfulness.

For this reason, do not say cruel things and do not deceive anyone. For the promise of God to come to pass in your life, watch your tongue and keep your lips from deceitful speeches. If you do not want to be in limbo; guard your tongue from profanity and no more lying through your teeth; according to the Bible passage which says, “Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.” **Psalm 34:13**

Christians should change

Inasmuch as deceit is ruining many things in the Christianity journeys of the Beloved; it is time to change. The Believers should strip themselves of their former nature that is characterized by corruption through lusts and desires that spring from delusion. If you want your prayers to be answered, you must depart from your previous way of life and discard your former nature that is corrupted through deceitful desires.

Abstain from deception, if you do not want to be in limbo, the Book of Ephesians attested to this fact by saying, “That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts.” **Ephesians 4:22**. Now that you understand why you are in limbo; do not procrastinate, but change swiftly before it is too late.

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Topic: Heart of mankind is deceitful – Part 7

Bible Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

People with deceitful heart will not prosper

The mindset of most people in the world is that a lot of things can be achieved through deceits, but what about the outcome? Whatever that is gained through deceitfulness is sweet at the beginning, but later, its consequences will bring despair. Inasmuch as the end justifies; anything that is gained by fraud may be fine temporarily; however, the end-result will be unpalatable.

So, you need to realize that whatever that is stolen, or obtained by cheating may seem beneficial temporarily; but there will be repercussions. The Bible confirmed this fact by saying, “Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man, but afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.” **Proverbs 20:17**. Therefore, expel deceit from your heart and do not set your mind on fraud.

It should be noted that people with crooked hearts will not prosper and lying tongues will make them tumble into trouble. Most people in the world did not succeed; because of their waywardness, and many are falling into calamity due to their deceitful speeches. Inasmuch as dishonesty does no good, and telling lies will get you in trouble; anyone who wants to be successful must abstain from every form of deceits, and such a person must stop lying; else disaster will befall the individual.

Therefore, do not be deceived; a bad motive cannot achieve a good end, and double-talk only brings double-trouble; according to the scripture which says, “He who has deceitful heart finds no good, and he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.” **Proverbs 17:20**. If you want to see good in the land of the living, you must depart from deceitfulness.

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For this reason, never tell lies, or be deceitful in what you say. Put away from you, dishonest speeches and contrary talk. Never say anything that is not true; have nothing to do with lies and misleading words. Keep vigilant watch over your heart; do not talk out of both sides of your mouth, also avoid careless banter, white lies, and gossip. The Bible corroborated this fact by saying, "Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put perverse lips far from you." **Proverbs 4:24.** Don't you think it is time to remove dishonesty from your mouth? Rid yourself of a deceitful mouth and perverse speeches; so that you can live a peaceful and fulfilled life.

Do not mortgage your soul to Satan

The people that are lying and deceiving others belong to Satan; such people have mortgaged their souls to the Devil. Any dishonest person has sold his/her soul to Lucifer, and such an individual cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven. Inasmuch as Satan is the inventor of lie and deceit; so, unless you desist from telling lies and deceiving others; you cannot reside in Paradise.

Whoever that is not on the side of truth and those who do not stand in the truth have conveyed their souls to Lucifer. Jesus confirmed this fact by saying, "You are of your father, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." **John 8:44.**

God will not allow deceivers to serve in His house and liars will not stay in His presence. If you are dishonest, you will not live in the spiritual tent of God, and if you are a hypocrite you cannot remain in the presence of Your Creator; according to the Bible passage which says, "He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; he who tells lies shall not continue in my presence." **Psalms 101:7.** You must desist from your deceitful lifestyle; if you want to rule and reign with your Maker eternally.

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Finally, love God not deceit; so that the promises of God will come to pass in your life without delay; according to the Book of Deuteronomy which says, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.” **Deuteronomy 6:5.**

The Seal: Jeremiah 17:9: “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it.”