



Foundation Scripture: ***Ephesians 5:1-2***

I. ***I Corinthians 1-10-13***

A. A Recap of Last Week

1. One of the greatest concerns in Christianity today is the lack of knowledge concerning:

- ***God's Will***
- ***Satan's Plan***

2. ***Hosea 4:6 & II Corinthians 2:11***

B. Satan's Perspective & Plan

1. First Order of Business – ***Divide Them***
2. Second Order of Business – ***Bring A False Imitation***

II. Third Order of Business – ***Join Them***

A. What did we learn that Satan's Greatest Weapon is? Deception

1. ***Matthew 24:24*** (Garden of Eden, Tower of Babel, Golden Calf when Moses delayed his return from speaking with God).
 - Man's greatest flaw – The desire for more (sound familiar)
 - Satan's heart was lifted up because of pride...he wants to be God.
 - Adam and Eve – deceived by a mix of truth with a lie.
 - Our fascination with the spiritual, the universe, the stars, heaven and beyond...if not submitted properly to our Creator, it will lead to an unbalanced system of beliefs....from one spectrum to another, Satan is only interested in one thing: corrupting the knowledge of Jesus. (From Nimrod to Hitler to the Anti-Christ....these are the extremes of how man tries to be like Satan and dominate other men; another point of interest is the “theory of evolution” – Man does not want to admit that there is a Creator or an afterlife, thus eliminating any responsibility for his actions in this life).
 - If Satan cannot deceive from without, then he will do so from within (whatever it takes....remember, he doesn't care where you go after this life, he only cares about your walk with God on this earth!)

2. ***II Corinthians 11:13-15***

B. John Calvin (Calvinism)

1. He was born in 1509 and was a French theologian and like his predecessor Martin Luther, was a key figure in leading the Protestant Revolution.
2. Like Martin Luther, he challenged many of the beliefs within Catholicism specifically the priesthood's authority, the Sacraments in the Lord's Supper, and the Ecclesiastical structure of the church.
3. His beliefs however like many when not properly dissecting (dividing) the Word of God, led to an imbalanced belief that many follow to this day.

- **Predestination** – God has already determined who will be saved (this not only eliminates the power of free-will, but the need to even pray for someone; why would we pray if someone is pre-destinated to be doomed or saved / healed or sick?)
- **Limited Atonement** – Atonement is only for the elect and not for all (How does one determine who is chosen and who is not?).
- **Preservation** – One that is elected and predestined cannot lose his salvation...once saved, always saved came from this mindset. (This eliminates responsibility to follow God with your whole heart – there would be no need to hold fast to something as the scripture proclaims since there is no ability to lose it!)
- **Conclusion** – Mormonism teaches that Jesus was a created being who is really our spirit brother that became God – that is not the Jesus of the Bible. Islam teaches that Jesus was just a prophet and a good teacher but not divine – that is not the Jesus of the Bible. The flaw with Calvinism teaches that Jesus did not come to save all and did not come to give us a choice between eternal life and damnation...This is not the Jesus I know in the Bible.

C. The “Feel-Good” Gospel

1. *II Timothy 4:1-4*

- The Prophecy.... “*The Time Will Come...*” (Future....Now) (With all the beliefs, the denominations, the division among us....truly the argument of Satan being clever in his disguise should be recognized!
- We are not asking the right questions.....and because of this, Christians do not have the answers! So what is the right question: **Why are people turning their ears from the truth?** Answer: They do not want to be responsible for their own actions. (Adam blamed God who gave him his wife Eve...and Eve blamed the devil...and people blame God through religious teaching and words of compromise... “God is sovereign” “He is in control.”)

2. A message filled with compromise... “Feel good churches are on the rise”

- Steve Martin in the “Leap of Faith” movie: “Hey boss, remember me? Got a question for you...Why did you make so many suckers?”
- Just a little bit of truth....and little bit of compromise....keeps the ears scratched, but the heart is dead; it’s called “SUPERFICIAL CHRISTIANITY” – What does this mean? It is surface-level, shallow, apparent and insignificant...Real Christianity is Profound, Thorough, Authentic, and Significant in every way. What kind of Christian are you today? What say you? The Church needs to get saved all over again!