Sin Is Deceitful

Josh Liggin · Hebrews 3:12–13

INTRODUCTION

- Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.
- But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called today, so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
- The reality is that sin lies to us. Sin promises us one thing, pleasure, and yet it always delivers something else, pain.

1 Sin Deceives Us, It Tricks Us

Genesis 3:1–6; Genesis 3:13

- This is what sin does. It deceives us, it tricks us. Tries to get us to do something that fundamentally we know we should not do by promising these great things.
- The serpent said to the woman, You will surely not die. The serpent just out and out lied to Eve, contradicting what God said.
- When the devil's using his trickery, he's making it seem like something great and grand. And the actuality is the punishment is going to be death.
- And the woman said, The serpent deceived me. And I ate.

2 The Devil Is the Father of Lies

John 8:44; John 8:34; John 8:31

- Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.
- Truly, I say to you that everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin, and you are of your father the devil.
- You are susceptible to the deception of sin. And if you are not on guard, if you are not careful, it will trick you and you will become like the devil.
- The reality is, I believe, that whenever I sin, someone is deceived.

3 I'm the One Who Deceives Myself

Ephesians 2:1–3; Proverbs 1:10–19; Proverbs 1:20–32

- But I think far more often, I'm the one who deceives myself. I begin to lie to myself about my sin. Because I don't want to admit it. Because I don't want to change.
- Do you realize that you were working for Satan? You're living your life in accordance with the way that he wants you to live your life.
- They ambush their own lives. They dupe themselves into thinking that what they're doing isn't that bad of a thing.

- It was by their own willful actions that they were foolish. They chose not to see.
- We end up lying to ourselves. And it's not because we don't have the information. It's because we choose to leave it at home.

4 We Try to Deceive Others

Matthew 23:27–28; Numbers 19:16

- Oftentimes we try to deceive others as well regarding our sin.
- When we try to hide who we really are, you know what that's called? That's called hypocrisy.
- So you too outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.
- You may have the superficial appearance of looking righteous. But everybody knows what you really are.
- And the reality is you're not deceiving anybody. You're not tricking anyone. Hypocrisy is very oftentimes evident.

5 We Try to Deceive God About Our Sin

Jeremiah 23:23–24; Psalm 139:1–4; Numbers 32:23

- You may not have to answer to Mom and dad. But you will answer to God. God is always watching.
- Am I a God who is near, declares the Lord, and not a God far off? Can a man hide himself in hiding places? So I do not see him, declares the Lord.
- Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it all.
- There is no darkness dark enough to cover up your sin from God.
- Behold, you have sinned against the Lord. And be sure your sin will find you out.

THE CHALLENGE

Don't be overcome by the deceitfulness of sin. Don't become a liar yourself. Don't lie about your sin anymore. Confess it and be cleansed.

MY NOTES