

The Disaster of the Deception of the Sin Nature

#23

'The Sin Nature Allures Believers by Means of False Teaching'

Beware of False Teachers

#11

(Point I. and all sub points see previous note sheets)

- II. Things Believers Are Either *to Do*, *to Know*, or *to Beware of* in Order to **Protect** Themselves against the Deception of the Sin Nature

[Points A. through L. and all sub points see previous note sheets]

- M. Beware of the Alluring Appeal of Desires of the Sin Nature, for '*Ear Tickling*' / '*Junk Food*' Offered by Deceitful **False** Teachers Who Will *Mix*, Modern Man's Thinking with the Word of God and Proclaim a Message That Will **Appeal to**, **Allure**, **Appease** and Seem **Appropriate** to the Natural Man's Thinking and His Sin Nature's Fleshly Desires for **Prosperity**, **Physical Wellness**, **Personal Happiness**, **Physical Pleasures**, and the **Placing of His / Her Personal Wants and the Desire for These and Other Things ABOVE the DESIRE to PLEASE and HONOR the LORD**; as Well as Using **Pretentious Religious Pomposity** That Will Be Void of Genuine Spiritual Reality (that Which Is Theocentric focused on God and not Anthropocentric focused on man and glorifies God) and May Use Methods Which Have the Appearance of the Miraculous All of Which Promote forms of Modern Idolatry cf Mt. 3:22; 24:4-5, 11, 24; Mk. 4:19; 7:21-23; 13:5-6; Lk. 21:8; Acts 20:28-30; Rm. 16:18; Eph. 4:14, 4:22; 5:6; Col. 2:4-8; 3:20-23

Beware of False Teachers

- I. **Warnings** to Beware

[Point A. and all sub points see previous note sheets]

- B. The Apostle **Paul's** Warnings to Believers cf Acts 20:28-30; 2 Thess. 2:3; 1 Tim. 4:1-3 2 Tim. 3:1-11; Titus 1:10-14: His Warning to the **Elders** in the Church at Ephesus cf Acts 20:28-30

6. The **Duties** of the Elders

"Take heed, therefore, unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over / among which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed / to shepherd the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." Acts 20:28

- f. **More** on the Second Duty of Elders and the Holy Spirit's *Purpose* for Placing Them in the Midst of the Flock as Overseers: The Words 'to feed' / 'to shepherd' Are the Translation of the Greek Verb (ποιμαίνω) English Transliteration *poimaino*
- 4) Shepherds Identified with Their Sheep on a **Personal** Level of Jn 10:1-4, 14 Hence Elders Must be Able to Identify with the Sheep They Shepherd on a Personal Level
- 5) The Elders Responsibility of Supervising and Safeguarding, Shepherding Believers Spiritually Will Require the Continued **Teaching** of the Word of God, **Leading** by Following the **Example** of Jesus and **Prayer** cf Act 20:32; Eph. 4:11-13; 5:26-27; 1 Tim. 3:1-2; 4:11; 5:17; 6:2; 2 Tim. 2:2; 4:1-4 ; Titus 1:5-14; 1 Pet. 5:1-4 (teaches Elders are to Follow the Example of Jesus) cf 1 Cor. 4:16 1 Cor. 11:1 (teaches we are to follow Paul to the extent he followed Jesus); the Earthly Ministry of Jesus Was Permeated by Teaching cf Mt. 4:23; 5:2; 7:29; 9:35; 11:1; 13:54; 21:23; 22:16; 26:55 Mk. 1:21-22; 2:13; 4:1-2; 6:2, 6, 34; 10:1; 11:17; 12:14, 35; 14:49 Lk. 4:15, 31; Lk. 5:3, 17; 6:6; 13:10, 22, 26; 19:47; 20:21; 21:37 Lk. 23:5; Jn. 6:59; 7:14, 28, 35; 8:2, 20; 18:20 Acts 1:1 – the Apostle Paul Followed the Example of Jesus; by Giving The Teaching of the Word a Priority in His Ministry cf Acts 11:26; 15:35 Acts 18:11; 20:20; 21:21; 28:31; 1 Cor. 4:17; Col. 1:28; 2 Thess. 2:15 – Hence Following the Example of Paul to the Extent He Followed the Example of Jesus Elders Are to Be Devoted to Teaching the Word of God and Praying for the People They Shepherd; Following the Example of Jesus Who Prayed for His Disciples cf Lk. 22:31-32 and Who Prayed for All Believers cf Jn. 17:20 and Continues Praying for Believers cf Heb. 7:25 – and the Example of Paul Who Followed the Example of Jesus by Praying for Believers cf Acts 11:26; 15:35; 18:11; 20:20; 21:21; 28:31 1 Cor. 4:17; Col. 1:28; 2 Thess. 2:15; the Other Apostles Who Were Also Elders Followed the Example of Jesus Giving Themselves to the Teaching of the Word and Prayer Acts 6:4; Paul Commends the Zealous Prayers of Epaphras, Who Was *Probably an Elder* in the Church at Colossae cf Col. 4:12-13
- g. The **Ones** Elders are to Oversee and Shepherd: “. . .the Church of God, Which He Has Purchased with His Own Blood.”
- 1) A Textual Variant Some of the Extant Greek Manuscripts Read 'the church of God' and Some Read: 'the church of the Lord': I Lean Toward Favoring 'the church of **God** as Being What Is in the Autograph (original manuscript) Because:
- a) The Writings Recorded by the Apostle Paul Uses 'The Church or Churches of God' **11** Times cf 1 Cor. 1:2; 10:32 1 Cor. 11:16, 22; 15:9; 2 Cor. 1:1 Gal. 1:13; 1 Thess. 2:14; 2 Thess. 1:4; 1 Tim. 3:5, 15 and 'The Churches of Christ' Only **1** Time cf Rm. 16:16

- b) The Phrase '*The Church of God*' Raises an Issue That Would **Not** be Raised by the Phrase '*The Church of the Lord*' – The Issue Being Does God Have Blood?
 - c) I Lean Toward Favoring a Copyist Changed *God, to Lord* Because the Phrase '*Which He purchased with His own blood*', **Fits** Perfectly with Lord, Meaning the Lord Jesus Christ but **Not** with God Who Is a Spirit Being and Does Not Have Blood
- 2) **How** Can God Whose Essential Essence Is Spirit Not Flesh and Blood of Jn. 4:24; 2 Cor. 3:17; Isa. 31:3 Be Said to Have Blood?
Answer: The Blood Referred to in This Verse is That of **Jesus** cf 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Heb. 9:12; Rev. 5:9; Who Is **God** cf Mk. 2:5-12; Jn. 1:1 with Jn. 1:14, 10:33; 20:28; Philipp. 2:5-6; Col. 1:15-16 cf Gen. 1:1-27; Col. 2:9; 1 Tim. 3:16; Titus 2:13; Heb. 1:1-3; Thus the Blood Can Rightly Be Called the Blood of God
- 3) '*He (God) has purchased*' (περιποιέω) English Transliteration peripoieo This Verb Is in the *Middle Voice* Form Expressing **Intensive Involvement** of God in the Action That Resulted in the Accomplishing the Purchase (Examples of the Middle Pointing to the Intensive Involvement of the Subject in the Action of Acts 5:2 ('*kept back*'); Eph. 5:16; ('*redeeming*') James 1:21 ('*receive*')