

The Origin of Self-Deception (Part 2)

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Broadcast Dates: 8/16/26, 8/23/26 & 8/30/26

Message Date: 1/19/25 ● 10:00 A.M.

Scriptures:

- Romans 5:12, *NLT*
- Jeremiah 17:9
- Proverbs 16:18
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- James 1:22-24
- John 14:6

Summary:

God has great plans for our lives, but those plans are blocked when we deceive ourselves. Deceiving ourselves makes us spiritually blind to the truth of a situation; this is something God wants to deliver us from. Self-deception springs from the fall of man in the garden of Eden, and our sinful nature that resulted from it. The devil works through this and tries to convince us that our identity is based on our bad behavior instead of on God's Word concerning our righteousness. What was true under the law may no longer be true under grace. We fool ourselves when we think we must live by an outdated covenant. The lies we believe about ourselves neutralize us. Recognizing who we are in Christ and believing what God says about us opens our eyes to the truth about ourselves.

Notes:

1. Self-deception originated from sin in the garden of Eden. Pride is one factor that comes into play.
2. Self-deception is more than simply a term for someone who doesn't see the truth; to deceive ourselves is to participate in an act that produces a false view of our circumstances.
3. Pride and rebellion against God also play a significant role in self-deception. When people elevate *their* understanding above God's wisdom, they deceive themselves into thinking that they don't need His guidance.
4. Ignoring God's Word keeps us from realizing who we are in Jesus Christ.
5. Spiritual blindness is another root of self-deception. Satan sees unbelief as an opportunity to attack people's minds so that they won't believe God's Gospel of Grace.
6. Self-deception doesn't disqualify us; instead, it highlights our need for Jesus, who came to restore us to truth.

Category: spiritual growth

Keywords: self-deception, deceive, deceiving, blind, truth, true, lies, believe