

Deceptions In Backsliding:



Deceive defined:

1. to lead away from the truth, delusion, error, wrong opinion relative to morals or religion
2. To fool yourself; to convince yourself of something that is not true.

Biggest emotion in hell: Regret.

1. "I need to sow my wild oats first"

Galatians 6:7-8 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

2. "I shall return." **Some** never do. **Most** never do.

2 Peter 2:20-22 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

- Procrastination leads sincere people to hell.
- Sin doesn't let go easily. Those delivered from demons can have them come back seven times worse. They are in a stronger bondage than they were before.



"I'll be back"

3. "I said the sinners prayer"

- If you pray a prayer, go to the altar and have no change of lifestyle you are not born again.
- True born again people have a change of lifestyle.

James 2:18-19 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble!

4. "God is merciful", often implying that you can be a Christian and live anyway you want.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Practice defined:

To exercise, practice, to be busy with, carry on: life style.

5. "I don't have to go to church to be a Christian."

Q) Do you know anyone who is really serving God and they don't attend fellowship with other believers

A) I don't.

- If a person never comes to church I doubt they were really saved.
- Saved people want to go to church and be with God's people.

Hebrews 3:12-15 Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,

Hebrews 10:24-27 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. 26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

6. "I would never fall."

- It is dangerous to think you could never fall.
- Some of the greatest Christians and ministers I know have fallen into sin.

2 Peter 3:17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;

1 Corinthians 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

7. “I’ll go to heaven if I commit suicide.” There are two schools of thought:

(1.) It is murder

1 Corinthians 3:16-18 (NIV) Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

18 Do not deceive yourselves.

(2.) Grace may cover it in some instances.

- Some people are sick in their head like some are sick in their body. If someone is sick in their body they don't go to hell, so it is the same for one who is sick in the head.

My response:

- Don't take a chance. The pain of earth doesn't compare to the pain of hell. What you are going through may be difficult, but it is not worth killing yourself.
- Suicide is dangerous gambling with your soul. Only God can judge a person in such a state. Some people believe they will go to heaven. I cannot tell you that for sure.

I can't influence those who are not here but I can influence you that are still alive. Don't do it. I will stand before God with a clear conscience that I warned you.

People who survived jumping off golden gate bridge said their last thought while falling was “I wished I hadn't jumped.”

Conclusion

One set of scriptures says I have eternal life by grace. Another says I have responsibility to live for God. They are both right.

1. Make a decision never to go back. - Matthew 10:22 he who endures to the end will be saved.

2. Stand on His promise to preserve you. - Jude: 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,