

Doctrinal Summary of  
Satan & Company: Disguised as Angels of Light and Servants of Righteousness

In 2 Corinthians 11:14, Paul identifies that Satan & Company disguise themselves as angels of light.

“No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.”

The word “disguises” is translated from the Koine Greek word μετασχηματίζεται (“met-a-schae-ma-tidz-eh-tai”) which literally means, “he really participates in the continuous type of action change the form of the outward appearance.” Thus, Satan takes on a form different than that which he naturally possesses in order to carry out his strategy of deception. This includes changing his outward appearance to make himself look like an “angel of light.”

The term “angel of light” refers to those angels who are the messengers and servants of God. They are the faithful angels who carry out righteousness in obedience to God. In Scripture, light is often symbolic of righteousness or righteous production (cf. 1 Jn. 1:5-10), both of which exist only within God’s kingdom. Angels of light carry out God’s will and works in accordance with His commands. Satan & Company mimic angels of light by mimicking works that appear to be in harmony with God’s will and righteousness, but in reality fail to meet His standard. By doing this they are able to deceive many who do not pay attention to the truth, having dropped their shield of faith in the teaching of God’s Word by the Holy Spirit. This is identified by Paul to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:1.

“But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,”

The words “fall away” are translated from the Koine Greek word ἀποστήσονται (“ah-pos-tae-son-tai”) which literally means, “they really will participate in the action and be affected by the action in a point in time in the future to depart from a position of stability in which one stands.” Those who depart from the truth of God’s revelation do so by their own participation and they are affected by their departure from truth. The means by which they depart from truth is through “paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.”

The words “paying attention” are translated from the Koine Greek word προσέχοντες (“pros-ech-on-tes”) which literally means, “performing the continuous type of action as a matter of principle to have a fixed orientation toward a specific focus, based on one’s own initiation.” That which is fixed in the focus of those who depart from truth are the deceitful statements of Satan & Company and the teachings of Satan & Company that are developed in the sons of disobedience in this world. Those who depart from truth do so because of a focus on deceitful messages and teachings from Satan & Company. This is based on the initiation of the individual who chooses with his own free will to orient his focus on those things which are taught by Satan & Company which appear to be true, but only have the appearance of truth and not the nature.

Satan & Company develop humans into their associates by means of disguising themselves as angels of light and servants of righteousness. They are able to seduce man by means of his sinful nature into controlling his conduct in order to be agreeable with society. The believer must walk in the Light in order to be in the position to see the disguise of Satan & Company and maintain themselves in the truth of God’s Word under the Holy Spirit’s control. Else, he too will depart from truth for falsehood.