

CONTRASTS OF TWO PRINCES, #1

INTRODUCTION

Our subject today is "Contrasts of Two Princes." The word "Prince" is found many times in the OT, and describes the many rulers or kings of the world among the people of the world and the Israelites. In the NT age, there are 2 princes named in a special way: SATAN and CHRIST. They are opposing forces and war against one another. We will discuss the contrasts between these 2 princes for today and next Lord's d

Now let's note how these 2 princes are described in scripture.

A. 1st, let's look at the description of SATAN, as a prince.

1. He is called the prince devils (or demons). Mt.12:24
2. He is also called the prince of this world. Jn.12:31; 16:11
3. He is also called the prince of the air. Ep.2:2
4. He is described as a ruler of darkness. Ep.6:12

B. Now let's look at the description of CHRIST, as a Prince.

1. He is called the Prince of Peace. Isa.7:14; cf 9:6
2. He is also the Prince of Life. Ac.3:15
3. He is also called the prince of the kings of the earth. Rev.1:5
4. He is also called a Prince and a Savior. Ac.5:31

With these thoughts in mind, let's note the CONTRASTS that existed and are yet existing between these two warring princes.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, they differed in the matter of OBEDIENCE.

A. In the garden of Eden, God began by requiring OBEDIENCE from the first couple, with a warning of death. Gen.2:16f; cf 3:1-6...

1. Their failure to obey brought spiritual death immediately, and ultimately physical death. Gen.3:23f; 5:5; Ro.5:19
 - a. All their descendants did not inherit the "guilt" of their sins, but did inherit their consequences. Ro.5:12
 - b. The whole world then fell into sin, corruption and death.

2. Man's wicked imagination and evil deeds brought on the flood to destroy the wicked world. Gen.6:1-5

B. Christ, the second Prince, requires OBEDIENCE to His will, as HE was obedient to the Father's will. Jn.6:38; He.10:9f

1. Our forgiveness depends upon obedience to His commands. Ac.2:38; Ro.6:17f
 - a. The book of Romans opens and closes with emphasis on obedience. Ro.1:5; 16:26
 - b. In all the conversion stories in the books of Acts, the converts were always baptized to be born again. 1Pe.1:22; Jn.3:3-5
2. Our eternal reward is also dependent upon our continual obedience to Christ. He.5:8f

II. 2nd, the 2 princes differed regarding TRUTH.

A. God is the originator of truth, and revealed it through Christ, the Prince, and then through HIS word. Jn.1:1,14; 14:6; Tit.1:2; He.6:18

1. Truth today is found in the **written word** of scripture. Pr.30:5f; Ro.3:4; Jn.12:48; 17:17
 - a. The Bible was written by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit. 2Pe.1:20f; 1Co.2:9-13; 2Ti.3:16
 - b. We are warned not to change the scripture in any way. Cf Dt.4:2; Pr.30:5f; Rev.22:18f (warnings at the beginning, middle and end of scripture).
2. There are many benefits to obeying the **truth** of God.
 - a. 1st, there is **freedom from sin**. Jn.8:32; Ro.6:17f
 - b. 2nd, there is **hope of heaven**. 1Pe.1:3-5
 - c. 3rd, there is ultimately **eternal life** in heaven. 2Pe.1:4-11; Mt.25:21

B. Satan is the originator of all LIES. Jn.8:44; 1Ti.4:1

- A. Satan knows the scripture and uses it in many ways for evil.
 1. He tempts man through a **perversion** of scripture. Mt. 4:1; Ga.1:7; Ac.13:10; 20:30
 2. Satan uses **false ministers** to deceive. 2Co.11:14f
 3. Satan uses **outright lies** to deceive. Gen.3:1-4; 1Ki.13:18; 2Th.2:9-12; 1Ti.4:1-3
 4. Satan causes some to **wrest** (or twist) the scriptures to their own destruction. 2Pe.3:16
 5. Satan **subtly mishandles** truth. 2Co.11:3; 2Pe.2:3,18
 6. Satan uses **damnable heresies** to please the people. 2Pe.2:21
- B. What will be the **final destiny** of Satan and those deceived by him?
 1. 1st, There will be a judgment against them. 2Pe.2:1; Mt.7:21-23; 25:41
 2. 2nd, There will be a condemnation. 2Pe.2:3
 3. 3rd, there will be swift destruction. 2Pe.2:3; Rev.20:10-12

CONCLUSION

I. DO YOU ENJOY THIS HOPE OF HEAVEN?

A. Thinking about obeying Christ sometime in the future leaves your soul in a state of sin at the present time.

B. If death should overtake you, there will be no hope at all.

II. NOW is the best time, while you have opportunity. Pr.27:1; 2Co.6:2

