

The Almost Overmastering Delusion

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Christ portrayed Himself as a Lamb... John 1:29

1. The devil tries to mimic the Savior by dressing up as a wolf in lambs clothing... Matthew 7:15

Christ portrayed Himself as a Root, a plant that bears branches... Revelation 22:16

1. The devil is said also to be a root that bears branches... Malachi 4:1

Christ revealed that there is good fruit - His Spirit within His people... Jeremiah 24:2

1. Choose carefully, the devil has fruit too!... Jeremiah 24:5-10

Christ portrayed Himself as the Bread of life... John 6:48

1. Be prayerful, the devil has what is called the "bread of deceit" that leads to death... Proverbs 20:17

Christ has said that His Kingdom is within us. He likens the Kingdom of Heaven with leaven... Luke 13:20-21

1. The enemy has leaven too... Mark 8:15

Christ portrays Himself as a Lion... Revelation 5:5

1. The devil is as a roaring lion... 1 Peter 5:8

Christ portrayed Himself as a serpent... John 3:14

1. The devil is a serpent... Revelation 12:9

Christ is portrayed as a Prince... Isaiah 9:6

1. The devil is referred to as a prince... John 12:31

Christ is mentioned as the "everlasting Father"... Isaiah 9:6

1. The enemy is a father too!... John 8:44

Christ has proclaimed Himself as our Apostle... Hebrew 3:1

1. The devil has made himself to be an apostle as well... 2 Corinthians 11:13

Christ comes as Light of the world... John 9:5

1. The devil comes as an angel of light... 2 Corinthians 11:14

Christ has told us that He is the Morning Star... Revelation 22:16

1. The devil used to be named that when he was called Lucifer... Isaiah 14:12 (See Strong's concordance, #1966 - "Brightness, the morning-star.")

Christ has portrayed Himself as God... John 10:30

1. The devil has tried to usurp the authority and worship of this awesome name... 2 Thessalonians 2:4

Christ has three messengers to proclaim truth... Revelation 14:6,8,9

1. The devil has inspired three messengers to deceive... Revelation 16:13-14

Christ has in His ministry seven Spirits... Revelation 5:6

1. The devil has in his ministry seven spirits... Matthew 12:43-45

Christ portrays Himself as the Master of the house... Luke 13:25

1. The devil also claims to be the master of the house... Matthew 12:44

Christ is given the power to rule all nations... Revelation 12:5

1. The devil has desired this same power... Revelation 13:7

Christ has the Key of David... Revelation 3:7

1. The devil has the key of the bottomless pit... Revelation 9:1

“What I say unto you I say unto all, watch.” Mark 13:37.

Matthew 24:26-27 - Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Fearful sights of a supernatural character will soon be revealed in the heavens, in token of the power of miracle-working demons. The spirits of devils will go forth to the kings of the earth and to the whole world, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of Heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. Persons will arise pretending to be Christ himself, and claiming the title and worship which belong to the world's Redeemer. They will perform wonderful miracles of healing, and will profess to have revelations from Heaven contradicting the testimony of the Scriptures.

As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation. [REV. 1:13_15.] The glory that surrounds him is unsurpassed by anything that mortal eyes have yet beheld. The shout of triumph rings out upon the air., "Christ has come! Christ has come!" The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him, while he lifts up his hands, and pronounces a blessing upon them, as Christ blessed his disciples when he was upon the earth. His voice is soft and subdued, yet full of melody. In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed. He declares that those who persist in keeping holy the seventh day are blaspheming his name by refusing to listen to his angels sent to them with light and truth. This is the strong, almost overmastering delusion. Like the Samaritans who were deceived by Simon Magus, the multitudes, from the least to the greatest, give heed to these sorceries, saying, This is "the great power of God." [ACTS. 8:10.] {Great Controversy 623-624}