

COULD YOU BE

Deception  
deception  
Caught  
in the  
Web of  
Deception?

DISCOVER WHAT CHRISTIANS IN AMERICA  
MIGHT EXPECT NEXT FROM THE LORD

BOB FRALEY

# reetings

IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. I AM A CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMAN AND OWNER OF A MANUFACTURING COMPANY THAT PRODUCES HIGH TECH ALUMINUM EXTRUSIONS FOR THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY. MORE IMPORTANTLY, MY WIFE AND I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO SERVE THE LORD TOGETHER FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS. WE HAVE NINE CHILDREN, THREE OF OUR OWN AND SIX CHILDREN WE TOOK IN WHEN THEIR PARENTS WERE KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT. ALL NINE CHILDREN, THEIR SPOUSES, AND OUR 18 GRANDCHILDREN SERVE THE LORD. AS AN ELDER AND TEACHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST, I FEEL COMPELLED TO WRITE THIS BOOKLET. MY PURPOSE IS TO POUR MY HEART OUT TO CHRISTIANS CONCERNING THE MOST DANGEROUS THREAT OF ALL, THE ONE THAT IS DESTROYING AMERICA, THE COUNTRY WE DEARLY LOVE.

### OUR NATIONAL TRAGEDY

On September 11, 2001, four commercial passenger planes left the East Coast heading for the West Coast. Not one person aboard those flights would survive! Terrorist hijackers flew two planes into the World Trade Center towers, a third plane exploded into the Pentagon, and the fourth crashed into a Pennsylvania field. Families lost fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, brothers, and sisters. Co-workers and friends were suddenly gone, thousands of innocent people killed—buried amid the collapsed rubble. America saw how the way we think, the way we work, and the way we go about our everyday lives can change in an instant. We are warned in Scripture how rapidly things will change in these days in which we are now living.

### WHERE WAS GOD?

Our nation was shockingly stunned that day at the vast number of lives lost and how the devastation and damage of three impenetrable icons of this country happened so quickly. People are asking, where was God in those moments? One thing I can assure you—*God was not taken by surprise in those critical moments that meant the difference between life and death for so many.* He knows the thoughts of all human beings. He monitors the movements of every person in the entire mass of humankind. Nothing takes place on this Earth without His knowledge, His permission and, at times, His purpose. He was there! He felt the anguish of every person suffering in confused darkness and silence. He grieved over the hideous sin perpetrated on those innocent people.

God's commandments are designed to protect all people from harm, but again His commandments were ignored. Evil was chosen over good, and evil choices frequently affect innocent lives. God did not create us as robots, but gave us the freedom to choose. Those who could have chosen to love and contribute to the good of mankind chose instead to hate and destroy. However, one thing is certain: *God is still in control of everything.*

## GOD HAS BLESSED AMERICA

You may be one of the many who are asking: **why** do these terrorists hate America? The Bible answers that question! Throughout history Satan has always developed a scheme alongside any spiritual development of God, to counter-attack, undermine, and try to destroy God's purpose. The same is true of America. Human wisdom did not develop America. God has blessed our nation far above most countries throughout history.

The history of our nation confirms that God has had a special place in His heart for America and the American people. Christians led by God to be salt and light settled our country and formed our government. They did not let secular society sway them from forming a more perfect Union, yet our government was designed to be a government for *all* citizens. Early Christians helped form our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and every aspect of our Republic form of government. They were given wisdom and inspiration from God. No individual had the wisdom and foresight that it took to form our government. The United States government is still the oldest government in



existence today that remains unchanged from the time it was formed.

America has been the center of Christianity for over 300 years. The standards that the majority of people have lived by throughout the history of our country have been based on biblical teachings. Today there is a church located every few blocks in most towns across this nation. Teaching from the Bible can be heard day and night on radio and television. The Bible is the number one bestseller. Millions of books with a Christian message are sold each year; religious publishing has become a major business. Christian missionary organizations are spending millions of dollars to take the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world. America has the funds and resources to spread the Word of God throughout the world in these latter days.

## THE ENEMY IS NOT IDLE

There is, however, something that we must remember. The enemy is never idle. The Word of God teaches us, as do our own experiences, that anything of

God involves great spiritual battles. *"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour"* (1 Peter 5:8). Satan's tactics are ruthless and deadly. We can never take him lightly; he always plays "hardball." For example: He is the enemy who caused Adam and

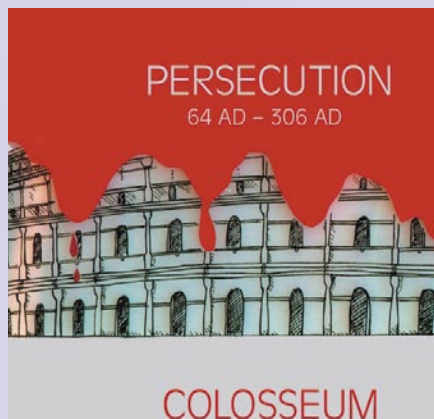
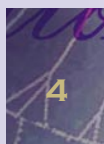
Eve to fall. He caused lawlessness and wickedness to become so rampant that God had no choice but to cleanse

## SPIRITUAL ATTACK

the Earth by a flood. He developed the spirit of rebellion and permissiveness so strongly in God's chosen race, the Israelites, that they turned against the ways of God. In the first 300 years of the church, his attacks against Christians, working through the Roman government, were so harsh that an estimated three million Christians were persecuted for their faith. They were hunted down like animals and put to death by every cruel method of torture man could devise. They were torn to pieces, thrown to wild animals, beheaded, burned, crucified and buried alive. Satan's attacks became so severe on the church during the Dark and Middle Ages, God prepared a place of near obscurity to protect it and His Word. The church had to operate primarily through the underground during this time. After Martin Luther and the Reformation, Satan continued his attacks against Christians during the Reformation Wars in the 1500s. In country after country hundreds of thousands of Christians were brutally massacred. They were thrown into dungeons, scourged, tortured on the rack and burned at the stake.

You may be wondering: what about the twentieth century? The number of martyrs over the course of the twentieth century, as estimated by David B. Barrett and his colleagues, is 45,400,000. Since 1950 there have been 13,300,000 Christians martyred and since A.D. 33, the total estimated number is 69,420,000. [Source: World Christian Encyclopedia, Global Diagram 6.]

Recently a Christian prisoner in Cuba was asked to sign a statement containing charges against fellow Christians that would lead to their arrest. He said: "The chains keep me from signing this." The Communist officer protested, "But you are not in chains!" "I am," said the Christian. "I am bound



by the chain of witnesses who, throughout the centuries, gave their lives for Jesus Christ. I am a link in this chain. I will not break it."

Consider this thought from someone who recently experienced persecution and was asked why God had allowed him to be persecuted: "Not only would He not kill our enemies for us, but He would empower us to love them while they killed us."

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." So stated Jim Elliot, killed in 1956 by headhunters in Ecuador while serving there as a missionary.

Christians in America should expect to be in for some heavy spiritual battles as these last days unfold because of our strong Christian heritage. Satan is out to destroy the spiritual base in our country with his most dangerous weapon of all!

### SATAN IS SPIRITUALLY ATTACKING AMERICA WITH ALL OUT WARFARE

The Bible teaches there are **two** primary methods that Satan uses to attack God's people. One is **persecution**, which is easy to detect. The other is **deception**, which is quite different from persecution. We can see how severely Satan uses the method of *persecution* to attack Christians; he uses *deception* just

as severely, but it is difficult to detect.

Both methods of attack are dangerous and destructive. However, *deception* is a greater threat to America than persecution because *deception* corrupts the heart. The Bible warns that Satan's use of *deception* will increase and will be very powerful against Christians in the period of time in which we now live. "The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits..."(I Timothy 4:1). The most dangerous weapon of all that Satan is using to attack and spiritually defeat God's people in America is *deception*. He is **destroying America from within**. Chinese Christian leader Samuel Lamb, a prisoner for twenty years, stated, "Our churches in China are undergoing persecution; your churches in the West are undergoing delusion."

## THE FRUITS OF DECEPTION

“**B**ut you have planted wickedness, you have reaped evil, you have eaten the fruit of deception. Because you have depended on your own strength...” (Hosea 10:13).

Christians *need to know* how to identify and guard against Satan's attacks of *spiritual deception*. Christian lives and homes are suffering so much pain and anguish and we usually don't know why. Pastors and Christian counselors are flooded with requests to counsel emotionally and spiritually hurting Christians.

Satan's use of *deception* has always been one of his major weapons against God's people. It brought down Eve, then Adam as well as leaders like Samson, King Saul, King David, Solomon and many more. It is destroying the Christian moral standards of the American people. Many Christian leaders and church members alike have fallen into sin through *deception*. Sexual sins and the break up of marriages are at an all time high! Addiction to pornography has become a

## FRUITS OF DECEPTION

national epidemic among Christian men. *Deception* is causing divorce, immorality, dishonesty and greed to run rampant in the church! The divorce rate among Christians is now running 8% higher than the divorce rate among the people of the world.

Dr. Billy Graham has said that, according to his research, at least 90 percent of all Christians in America are living defeated spiritual lives. Others in a position to know the spiritual pulse of America have made similar statements.

Any American willing to face reality must admit that spiritually we are in serious trouble. Soon after WW II the moral standards that bound our nation and our people together for centuries began to unravel. **What was unthinkable a generation ago has now become not only commonplace but acceptable and even demanded in our society.** Two out of every three TV shows now include sexual content, an increase from about half of all shows during the 97/98-television season. [Source: The Keiser Family Foundation.]



Many of our nation's founding fathers and leaders throughout history submitted to biblical Christian standards. However, in this generation our government leaders began to pass legislation that allowed and even promoted immoral

## WORLD'S INFLUENCE

causes and ungodly standards. The casualties this has caused among our people are beyond one's imagination. Passing out condoms in schools, for example, sanctions promiscuity, which promotes sexual immorality. Prayer was made illegal in all public schools. A law was passed that has allowed the murder of 40 million human lives through abortion.

The report card on our society in a recent 30 year period reads as follows: Crime increased 500%; illegitimate births increased 400%; children living in single-parent homes tripled; the teenage suicide rate tripled; the divorce rate doubled; homosexuality began to be taught as an acceptable lifestyle; the entertainment industry began to display sexual permissiveness and violence with very little resistance; respect for authority declined dramatically; robbery, murder, hate, greed, violence and other horrors crowd our newspapers every day.

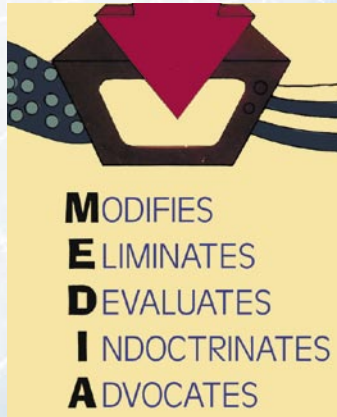
Law enforcement authorities report that the amount of child molestation and incest is beyond one's grasp and that only 25% of the cases are reported to the authorities. I understand a new dance called the "freak dance" is sweeping across our nation. It is a public dance where couples with their clothes on simulate having sex on the dance floor as the band plays. This is acceptable because it is a dance. I saw a video of this dance that was taken at a high school dance. As I watched, I was convicted by the Spirit of the Lord that the dance room was filled with demons.

Our society has become a society where you don't

know from one day to the next what unspeakable crime is going to be reported. All the crimes committed are not by hardened thugs. Even children are going on killing sprees, gunning down other children and teachers at school. I guess we shouldn't be shocked knowing that many children have watched thousands of murders on television and have been taught that there are no moral absolutes; thus they see no wrong in killing their classmates.

## WORLD'S INFLUENCE

By the time adolescents graduate from high school, they will have spent 15,000 hours watching television, compared with 12,000 hours spent in the classroom. The American media is thought to be the most sexually suggestive in the western hemisphere. The average American adolescent will be exposed to nearly 14,000 sexual references per year on television, yet only 165 of these references deal with birth control, self-control, abstinence, or the risk of pregnancy. [Source: "Sexuality, Contraception, and the Media." American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Public Education (January 2001).]



The world's influence on Christians in this generation has been much greater than the influence of the standards taught in the Word of God. This has caused the moral character of the average Christian in America to change. Christians are more tolerant

of and more indifferent to many of the sins described in the Bible that are now commonplace in our culture. While we say we are standing against the tide, in reality we are simply a few decades behind the world's acceptance of the 'new' moral standards. What was

permissible by worldly standards in American society twenty or thirty years ago is now largely acceptable to Christians. Finding a Christian who has a *fear of sinning* is very rare these days.

We have allowed society to exchange our commitment to righteousness for a spirit of tolerance towards the ways of the world. We need to look no further than ourselves to find the real reason behind the corruption and violence in our nation. The body of Christ has lost much of its light and the function of being salt—the preserver of good, whose purpose is to inhibit moral decay and to bring out, under God, human richness. The freedom people have these days to openly talk about and display the most blatant of sins, flaunting them before the public's eyes, is a sad commentary on Christians being the salt of the Earth.

Jesus said: *“You are the salt of the Earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything...”* (Matthew 5:13). Salt is one of the most stable compounds on Earth and therefore cannot lose its “saltiness” on its own. What causes salt to become ineffective is contamination. The danger for salt is not that it may undergo chemical change, but rather that it can become mixed or diluted with other materials or chemicals. When so mixed it becomes “good for nothing.” **Jesus must have known that!**

This is the principle Jesus is teaching through the parable about salt. If Christians assimilate something other than the purity of God's Word in their life such as the impurities of the world,

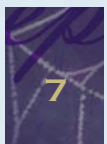
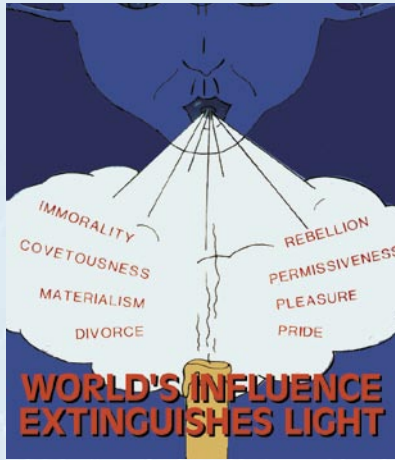
we will become contaminated and lose our “saltiness” or influence. Our influence in and on society depends on our

being distinct and separate, not identical. Here lies the problem for Christians in our society. We face a great danger of contamination because we mix with the world. Today it is often difficult to tell the Christian from the non-Christian.

Satan is able to *deceive* Christians because we are mixing with and, therefore, have become contaminated by

society's new moral standards. It has caused us to lose our “saltiness.” This is the reason for the bitter harvest of suffering and defeat so many Christians are experiencing. It is taking a heavy toll on America. It has allowed Satan to undermine our families, our public schools, our government, our way of thinking, our moral standards, and our social order. We cannot blame the people of the world. They usually do whatever society allows, which is what we should expect. The fruits of our society, as well as those of the Christian community, compared to the teaching of Jesus Christ and the Word of God, is not a pretty picture. The fruits reveal that Satan has declared war on America and is wiping out the Christian standards upon which our country was founded.

God's people are losing their “saltiness”—their effectiveness in preserving good. It was so important to Jesus that we be the salt of the Earth, he declared that to lose our “saltiness” is to ren-



der ourselves Kingdom rejects. It seems that very few Christians are committed to be salt and light whenever, wherever, and however they can. Have you lost some of your “saltiness”? *Could you be Caught in the Web of Deception?*

## DR. CHARLES FRALEY

I would like to introduce my brother, Dr. Charles Fraley, M.D., who shares with you a portion of his testimony about *deception* in the next section of this booklet.

Dr. Fraley has been a dedicated Christian from his youth. He and his wife, Marlene, have served the Lord on the mission field in Africa for over 28 years. He is the Executive Director of a large health ministry in Kenya, East Africa and oversees five hospitals, over fifty health centers located throughout the country, and a school of nursing. All of the health units under his direction minister to the poor and needy in remote areas. All staff members in this health ministry must profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and maintain high Christian standards.

Dr. Fraley's list of responsibilities seems endless. He checks on patients, delivers supplies, performs surgery, assists in administration, teaches the staff and encourages each facility. He works with the Kenyan government in obtaining licenses for many of the long and short-term doctors and nurses coming into the country. He is the attending physician for many of the missionaries of all denominations. He spends many of his days traveling over dirt, rock, and sand roads or paths, traveling among the African tribes and wild animals, which pose life-threatening danger at times. While out in the bush country he lives as the natives live—eating

their food, and sometimes sleeping in his vehicle or under the stars. Only the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit could give this man, now 69 years old, the strength and wisdom to accomplish all that has been accomplished for the Lord over the past 28 years on the mis-



sion field.

Dr. Fraley and his wife are among those godly servants who forsook their material possessions, pleasures, home and country to follow the call of our Lord Jesus to reach out to the sick, hurting, and poor people of the world. They labor selflessly, day in and day out, to share the love and salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Their ministry is built on solid rock. They have stood the test of time in their obedience and faithfulness.

I have just scratched the surface of my brother's many accomplishments; however, before going to the mission field, he had a dramatic experience. He fell into *deception*, even though he was a dedicated Christian. This unique experience and how the Lord delivered him from his *deception* revealed some critical prophetic Scriptures about America in our troubled times. A portion of his testimony is recorded here—

he shares all of his testimony in a new book he and I recently finished entitled: *Caught in the Web of Deception*.

## THE TESTIMONY OF DR. CHARLES FRALEY

I was raised on a small farm near Greenville, Ohio in a family of 13 children. I was number 12. My parents were godly people, sincerely dedicated to serving the Lord Jesus Christ. Precept and example trained the 13 children and all but one has a testimony of their commitment to the Lord. Many who knew my mother testified that she lived an exemplary Christian life—much like the outstanding women of the Bible as talked about in Proverbs 31.

Growing up, I had a strong desire to



know the Lord. When I was about 7, I joined the church and was baptized in a local creek, thinking this might help me go to Heaven. At age 11, I heard and understood the gospel of Jesus Christ for the first time. I came under conviction for three days and nights until I finally made a decision to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. This was hard for me because I was very shy. That made it difficult to go forward in church and make a public confession. Afterwards, however, I tried very hard to live a godly life. I soon discovered that the standards of most of my school classmates were

## TESTIMONY

much different than Christian standards. But my commitment to the Lord was such that I did not let this bother me.

### AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Upon graduating from high school I entered the Navy. Our country was in the Korean War and I was sure I would be drafted. This was a real time of testing for me in that I found myself to be one of the few committed Christians in the military. Again, the Lord provided an inner strength where it really did not bother me to live by God's biblical standards.

While in the Navy, the Lord gave me a great desire to know Him better through His Word. I had a lot of spare time while on ship duty and was able to spend most of those hours learning the Word of God. As a normal practice in the morning, I would rise two hours before wakeup call to pray, study the Word and memorize Scripture. By the time my four-year tour of duty was over, I had memorized over eight hundred verses, word perfect, and would review about 150 of them every day from morning to night.

It was during my four years of military service that I had a unique, or what would be called "supernatural," experience that led me to commit my life to work in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. The presence of God surrounded me one day as I was reading Hebrews 13:5. The Lord spoke this verse to my spirit. It said: "*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee,*

## AFTER THE MILITARY



*nor forsake thee*" (KJV). That caused me to commit my life into the Lord's hands for His service and give up any of my own plans.

### AFTER THE MILITARY

After military service, I felt led to enter Bible College in Nyack, New York, being supported by the GI Bill. It was there that I met, Marlene, the girl I would one day marry. I learned later that Marlene had made a commitment to become a missionary nurse and had plans to serve the Lord in Africa.

A few months after entering Bible College, while praying one evening, I asked God what He wanted me to do with my life. As yet I had really not received any clear directive. My prayer was quickly followed by a vision. Before telling you about this vision, a comment should be made about visions. According to the Bible it is not unscriptural for the Lord to direct Christians through a vision or dream. However, any vision must be tested to be sure it is of the Lord by examining its fruits and that it fits all of the spiritual principles found in the Word of God.

The vision I had was a very clear picture. I saw a man standing over the ocean

with one foot in Africa and the other foot in America. The man was dressed in doctor's clothing wearing doctor's gear. The man was saying, "*Come over and help, come over and help.*" I later learned that this call was somewhat similar to the Macedonian call that the Apostle Paul had experienced.

As I sought the Lord on the meaning of this vision, the Spirit of the Lord rose up in my being in a very strong way. The Spirit convicted me that I was to become a doctor and go to Africa to help the poor and needy in the Lord's service.

At that time I had never thought about being a doctor. I was not even familiar with what was involved in becoming a doctor. Growing up on a small farm in the southwestern part of Ohio, I had never been academically inclined. My career plans were to be a farmer.

The Lord blessed me with the faith to step out and transfer to Taylor University, a Christian liberal arts university, in Upland, Indiana where I entered pre-medical school. In the three years of pre-med at Taylor, I was blessed with all A's in my classes except for one B in Physical Education and a B in Literature.

After completing pre-med, I went to medical school for four years at Ohio State University from which I graduated. I next served one year of internship and four years of surgical residency at Saint Elisabeth Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio. I took and passed the National Exams of the American Board of Surgery and became a fully Board Certified General Surgeon. I had spent 13 years preparing myself so I could be obedient to the Lord's call to go to Africa as a medical missionary doctor.

However, during this 13 year extended period of preparation, I somehow had slipped in my spiritual walk with the Lord and lost my commitment to go to Africa. I had allowed thoughts to come into my mind such as the rationalization that I could just as well serve the Lord and practice medicine here in the states.

That would enable me, along with my wife Marlene and the two children we now had, to enjoy all the benefits I had found were available to doctors in this country. Besides, I thought, if I ever did go to Africa it would be good to have some practical experience beforehand. Several doctor friends and other Christians agreed with me.

The truth is I had gradually fallen into *deception*, though I had not realized it. How did that happen? It is actually hard to say. It seemed to develop over a period of time in a very subtle way and just infiltrated my mind. I justified it with the idea that, even though I was going to practice medicine in this country, I would still be willing to go overseas when the Lord showed me that I should. But I was really rationalizing at that point because I had already received direct leading from the Lord to go to Africa.

## MEDICAL PRACTICE

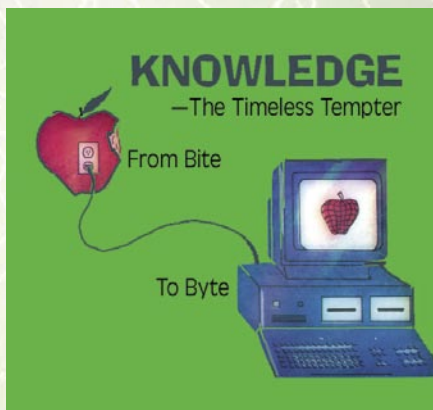
I started a medical practice here in the states in the area where I grew up. My practice grew each year and I was soon earning a net income of \$300,000.00 to \$400,000.00 per year, and that was in the early 1970s. I had my own airplane and the nicest Buick one could buy. Our family had a nice home in town. I bought the 100-acre family farm where most of my brothers and sisters had grown up and fixed it up very nicely with tractors, a pick-up truck, animals and horses. I was able to buy about everything anyone in my family wanted and it was all paid for.

My medical practice was very successful; however, there was one major thing wrong spiritually. By having a practice here in the states, I was out of the Lord's will and His direction for my life. I was walking in direct disobedience to the Lord's original call, which was to go to the mission field. The enemy had drawn me into *deception*! I had fallen prey to the influence of the world and

did not know it had happened.

## GREATER DECEPTION

The worst was yet to come! By being out of the Lord's will for my life, this first *deception* seemed to open the door for me to fall into to an even greater *deception*. It happened about four years after starting my medical practice, and I got involved in a situation. In consideration of others I do not believe I should share the details of the situation, but it was definitely sinful. It had the potential of devastating not only me but destroying everything I had, including my family. Of course that is what Satan wanted! He had *deceived* me and I could not see it! Like Eve was *deceived* to eat the fruit



from the garden, I can also say: "The enemy *deceived* me."

## A LESSON TO BE LEARNED

At this point I am going to digress for a minute because there is an important lesson to be learned from my experience of *deception* for anyone who claims to be a Christian. Although God is very merciful and long suffering, there comes a time when He expects us to clean up our lives and follow the straight and narrow—the sooner the

## SPIRITUAL DEFEAT

better! Otherwise, He will have to do it for us, which may require our walking through some very deep valleys that we will not like.

As a physician for many years in ministry, I have often had to deal with and assist Christians with personal problems, including pastors and Christian leaders. These are usually problems they do not want to share with other people. Often it is these personal problems, which amount to secret sins, that will trip us up in our Christian life. It takes a humble and sincere Christian to admit they have a problem and to seek help. This is partly because many Christians are too proud to admit they may have a spiritual problem, or because their problems are of such a nature that they just don't want to talk about them.

These problems usually begin by taking the form of lying, cheating, complaining, backbiting, criticizing (especially other Christians, and even more so, those who are anointed for His service), dishonesty (especially in the way we use money), pornography (which can include TV programs, movies, and now the Internet), masturbation, materialism (excessive affection of things), excessive pleasure, and even fornication, extramarital affairs, homosexuality, adultery, divorce, and on and on. Any of these things, and others that are of the world, can make a Christian insensitive to God's Spirit, therefore, preventing the Lord from giving clear direction.

This is one reason: "*Many are called, but few are chosen.*" When God says that we are to come out of the world and be separate, He really means just that and for a good reason. This is thoroughly explained in the book my brother and I recently completed, entitled *Caught in the Web of Deception*.

## SPIRITUAL DEFEAT

**I had been deceived by the enemy** and fell prey to the many attractions and cares of the world. It brought about a major spiritual defeat in my life and I did not know it had happened. To deliver me from this *deception* the Lord had to open my spiritual eyes before I could see the condition of my heart. When He did and I realized I was walking in disobedience, after having committed myself to the Lord's service, **I was devastated**. From my youth I had always had such a strong desire and commitment to serve the Lord. Being overcome and failing to go to Africa and do the Lord's revealed will for my life literally crushed my heart.

I could not believe I had gotten so far out of the Lord's will. But it happened! I had been active in church during this time. I had studied the Word of God and spent time in prayer, but my disobedience to a direct command from the Lord had allowed the enemy to *deceive* me.

After realizing I had fallen into *deception*, I began to seek the Lord with all the strength I had and with a true heart of repentance. I sought the Lord for a new filling of the Holy Spirit and the power to walk with

Him according to His will as I had once experienced. I put forth every ounce of my being seeking God for *seven* months, studying the Word, meditating, praying and worshipping Him in a state of repen-



tance. I also sought the Lord wanting to know *why so many Christians seemed to be living such defeated lives.*

At the end of this seven-month period of seeking the Lord, my family and I went on a two-week vacation to Florida. I had decided to spend this time fasting and praying—seeking the Lord—still in a spirit of repentance for my disobedience of being overcome by the ways of the world. I was determined not to stop until I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that the anointing and fullness of the Holy Spirit had once again been released in my being.

### MORE VISIONS

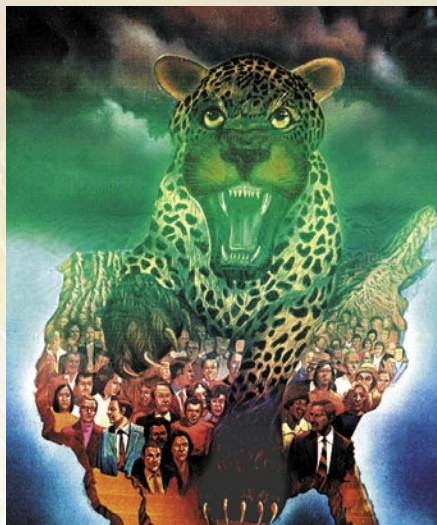
Midway through the second week of our vacation, I awoke one night and knew the presence of the Lord was in the room with me in a special way. I began to have visions similar to the one where the Lord had called me to become a doctor. It should be noted that these visions only came when I was living in complete victory and holiness.

The first vision I had was that of a large head of a “beast”—very fat looking—hovering over America. It was swallowing up Christians in our country almost at will. The Spirit of the Lord showed me the meaning of this vision. This “beast” represented the power of materialism and pleasure in our country. It was swallowing up Christians by spiritually *deceiving* and then overcoming them through the influence of the materialistic and pleasure-seeking lifestyles that had developed in our society. Those Christians who were spiritually being overcome were not aware of what was happening.

I was convicted this is what the enemy had used to tempt, *deceive* and then conquer me in my spiritual walk. It had pulled me away and caused my disobedience in not going to the mission field. The Lord showed me that the enemy, working through the powerful

## MORE VISIONS

temptations of materialism and pleasure, had caused most Christians in America to lose their spiritual power. It was why so many had become apathetic towards the deterioration of the biblical standards



in our country. And why many Christian families were experiencing major spiritual defeats, causing thousands to suffer hurt and pain.

Never has our spiritual enemy been able to attack and change the standards of a society in such a short period of time as here in America in this last generation. I was shown that it has been the tremendous temptation of materialism and pleasure in our society that Satan has used to spiritually attack and destroy America’s Christian foundation and biblically based moral standards, the guidelines that the majority of our people have lived by for years.

Not to be misunderstood, I want to make it clear the Lord did not show me that it is wrong to have material things or enjoy good wholesome pleasure. What the Spirit of the Lord revealed to me through this

## MORE VISIONS

vision of a head of a “beast” over America, was how the enemy is using our society to create an abnormal desire for material things and pleasure. He knows that if Christians become over-committed to the everyday affairs of life and use them to serve ourselves over and above our service to God, then we will lose our spiritual discernment.

In these days of great prosperity we are so busy with our everyday affairs many of us cannot see that we are in the middle of spiritual warfare that has produced very self-centered, self-serving people. The focus of God’s warning through this vision of the head of a “beast” is with the attitude of the heart. The commitment of Christians has become greater in satisfying their “everyday wants” in life over and above their commitment to obey the standards of God. That is the sin that is taking us out from under the hedge of God’s protection and is quenching the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It is the same problem that Jesus warns will happen to us as it did in the days of Noah (see Luke 17:26-30). It has become a powerful *deceptive* snare in our culture with its ability to heavily influence our lives causing us to lose our discernment in interpreting the signs of the times.

Satan used *deception* to get Eve, then Adam, to sin in the Garden of Eden. Just as Satan bombarded the mind of Eve to disobey God’s Word, Satan is attacking the minds of Christians today, day in and day out, with worldly,

ungodly and unscriptural ideas and principles. One of his most powerful tools to accomplish this is through the media—television, radio, movies, the press, Internet, etc., which often acts like a false teacher to influence us to disobey the Word of God. The power of the media to implant the standards of the world into our minds is a method of attack the Christian community has never had to contend with until the last 50 or 60 years.

The Lord confirmed to me that this vision of a head of a “beast” hovering over America, attacking Christians, did come from the Holy Spirit. This was done by quickly following the first vision with four other visions, all of Jesus Christ. Scriptures tell us the Holy Spirit always testifies of Jesus.

The first vision I had of Jesus showed Jesus giving up His life, willing to pay a tremendous price on the cross, for the salvation of mankind. The second vision of Jesus showed Him to be a very disciplined person, one whom had His face set as a flint. Nothing could deter Him from His call and purpose in life. The third vision of Jesus showed me the great love Jesus has for mankind. That is what it took for Jesus to endure the sacrifice of His life on the cross.

The last vision of Jesus showed Him standing at the door of my heart knocking, wanting to come in and re-establish the Lord’s will in my life.

All of these visions had a powerful and profound impact on me. Through these visions the Lord was showing me what had caused my *deception*, and how He did not deserve the kind of treatment that I had given Him with all that Jesus had sacrificed for me. I could now see



that I had become neglectful, disobedient and unfaithful. Through *deception* the enemy definitely had me on a path of falling away from living a biblically-based Christian life.

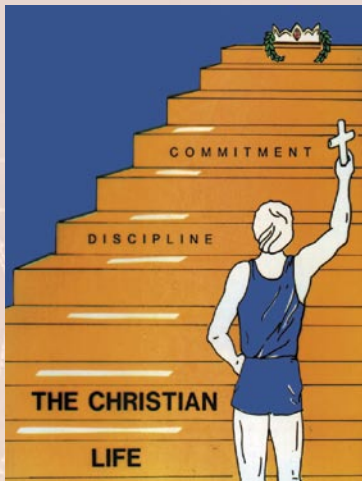
Since the time of these visions, I have walked with a certain “holy fear” in my life that has helped me stay in the Lord’s will and follow His commandments. I count it a great privilege to do so. It actually resulted in my following through with the Lord’s first directive to go and serve the people in Africa, which has been very joyful. My wife and I first went to Tanzania for a year and afterwards to Kenya where we have served the Lord for over 27 years.

The Spiritual teachings about *deception* and our responsibilities in living the normal Christian life which came from these visions the Lord gave me, must be taken very seriously. These teachings are shared in much greater detail in the book, *Caught in the Web of Deception*. The Word of God backs them up. If you are not alert and ready—have become slothful in your commitment—you could be in for a big surprise as the events of these last days unfold. Not only that, you may already be *Caught in the Web of Deception*. The majority of Christians in America are not prepared to stand against the spiritual attacks of *deception* that are taking place daily to control the hearts and minds of the American people.

There is no greater privilege on this Earth, or in Heaven, than to know and serve our Lord Jesus Christ who loved us and gave His life for us. He paid a tremendous price for our salvation and has every right to expect that we would

## MORE VISIONS

seriously consider seeking to fulfill the directive given to us in Romans 12:1&2. It reads: *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—which is your spiritual worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”* As this Scripture states, this is only reasonable and makes perfect sense.

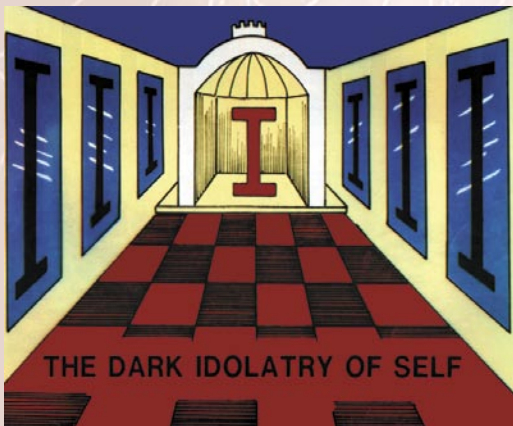


This ends my testimony in this booklet. My complete testimony is shared in the book, *Caught in the Web of Deception*. There I share the meaning of several important prophetic Scriptures about America the Lord revealed to me after the seven-month period that I spent seeking Him.

The message of this book answers a major question that has appeared in this last generation and has puzzled most Christians. The question is: How could America, with such a strong Christian foundation, and where so much Christian teaching has taken place, be experiencing such a rapid increase in the spirit of lawlessness, permissiveness, rebellion and selfishness? A condition that has continued to get worse over the last thirty to forty years and is now completely out of control. And nothing—new programs, education, or anything else—seems to have any effect in changing what is happening.

## SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

My brother, Dr. Charles Fraley, became a victim of *deception!* It is happening to Christians all over America. We live in the middle of a spiritual war zone and are being hit daily in every way imaginable to bend and compromise our biblical standards. There is a spiritual battle taking place in our land and it is destroying the biblical standards that the majority of Americans once honored and lived by. No one, regardless of how hard they may try, can avoid the spiritual attacks and conflicts we are experiencing. It is impossible to escape the influence of the standards being taught today by our society. They are too strong. Examine the standards of what you would like to believe. This is



causing many in the body of Christ to lose their spiritual discernment.

It takes spiritual discernment for Christian families to contend with the power and pull of the worldly society we live in today. No longer do we have to go out into the world to make contact with it. It comes right into our homes! Through the electronic media, and just about everything else taking place in our society, Satan's world-

ly influence seems to search us out to embrace us with its ways. The result is that we mix the standards of God's Word with the world's standards and think nothing of it. We have become callused to the fact that we are compromising the Word of God. **DECEPTION BRINGS COMPROMISE!** Compromise is disobedience.

## SPIRITUAL DECEPTION

“*See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ*” (Colossians 2:8).

*Deception* centers on motivating Christians to step out independent of God's Word to satisfy, serve or please ourselves. A symptom of spiritual *deception* is following standards that serve our self-interest, self-satisfaction and self-gratification over and above our willingness to seek God's will and His standards first. It is a form of what I call “spiritual heart disease.”

Here is my description of the web of *deception*: *Seducing or deceiving spirits tempt God's people to trade the truth of God's Word and to accept something that is contrary to the Word of God. They try to make something wrong seem innocent. To perform their acts of seduction they attempt to make their enticements irresistible. They try to make the difference between black and white seem like a shade of gray. If we do not know the Word of God and diligently seek righteousness, and hate every evil way, then we will become susceptible to these deceiving spirits, for this is one of the greatest dangers in the last days.*

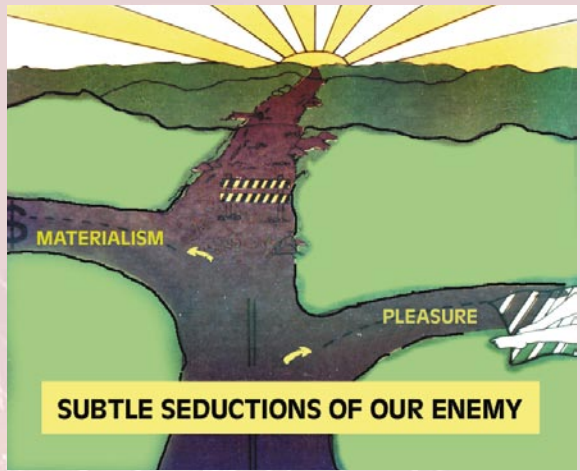
There are several principles of *deception* that we should be aware of. Most *deceptive* traps are hidden, but there will

be visible evidence of their presence. Spiritually, we are warned in the Bible not to believe every spirit but to test the spirits: “*Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God...*” (I John 4:1). We do this by using the Word of God as our guide. That is what Jesus did when Satan tempted him (Matthew 4:1-11).

Adam and Eve were first lured into *deception* by what they saw with their eyes (*the lust of the eyes*) rather than obeying the Word they had received from God. They were drawn into Satan’s *deceptive* trap through an appeal to one of their basic needs—food. The deadly temptations of Satan always include an appeal (*the lust of the flesh*) to one of our basic needs. It could be something material in nature—food, clothing, housing, wealth, etc. It could be security, acceptance, position, success or things of pleasure—sexual fulfillment and more. These temptations are the enemy’s bait.

To help us avoid *deception* and the influence of the world, it is important to spend time in prayer and with the Word of God. We should be a part of a biblically sound Christian fellowship with mature and solid spiritual leaders and teachers. This is how God provides the insights to warn us so we can recognize the hidden spiritual dangers of this world.

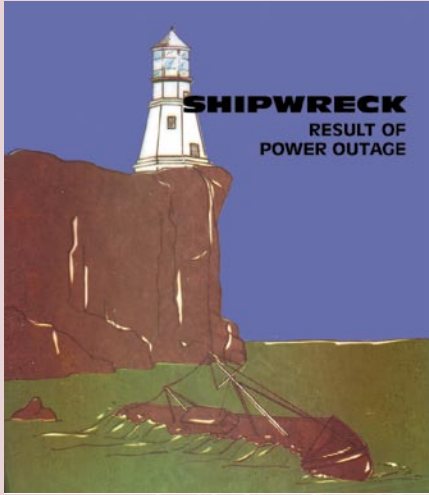
With the power our society has to influence our standards, it is necessary that Christians fill their minds with the things of God and not the things of the world. Today our world can easily overcome us, causing the desires of the flesh to go against spiritual wisdom. We become dull and sluggish and develop a false sense of spiritual pride, (*pride of life*) thinking we have all things under



control in our spiritual life. We lose our spiritual discernment and the ability to recognize and be alert to the enemy’s traps! This is exactly what the enemy wants because he knows this makes us very susceptible to his traps of *deception*.

It has become so easy for us to let our guard down and become tolerant of a watered-down biblical standard in the world in which we live. However, please understand that it is our spiritual pride and false confidence that tells us we can enjoy the pleasures and sins of the world without it hurting us spiritually. It will cause us to grow cold in our commitment to live according to the standards of God’s Word and it will cause us to fall away from living a biblically-based Christian life. **Remember: Satan is a master at tempting us with the pleasures and advantages of sin without revealing the spiritual defeats we will suffer.**

Paul warned us in his letter to Timothy that the character of Christians would change in the last days. He said: “*But mark this: There will be ter-*



*rible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy (which is to be immoral), without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.”* (II Timothy 3:1-5).

It is because we mix God’s standards with the standards of the world that this prophecy has come true in America. We have a form of godliness but we deny its power by quenching the power of the Holy Spirit—the only power we have to overcome these characteristics in our lives. Paul was deeply concerned to see these characteristics so common among Christians in the last days, saying it would be a time that is *terrible or dangerous*. If any of these characteristics are a part of our everyday life and we are not concerned about it, then we have been *deceived*.

God has given Christians in America a rich Christian heritage along with the freedom to live out our faith. It is obvious that Satan is out to destroy every good thing that God has blessed us with. The number of Christians who have been overcome, and the spiritual harm done by the worldly influence of our society is impossible to know. I have mentioned several of the painful spiritual defeats that Christians are experiencing. They include the large number of Christian men who have been drawn into pornography; the high divorce rate among Christians, which has devastated many Christian families; the many Christians, including spiritual leaders, who have fallen into sexual immorality; the greed that has overcome the body of Christ, causing many to be dishonest (a form of lying) in their handling of money and material things and to rob God in their tithing.

The self-gratifying materialistic and pleasure-seeking environment in which we live is causing a lot of spiritual harm to Christians. There is only one way that the Lord can heal these and the many other “spiritual heart diseases” that have infested the body of Christ in America. He will have to perform “serious spiritual surgery,” which is carried out through judgment. It is the only way He can correct the spiritual *deception* that now exists.

*It is unfortunate, but it has been proven again and again that it takes an extended crisis before most people will listen and begin to seriously seek the Lord.* The events of September 11 proved that to be true. The churches were full the next few Sundays following this tragedy. But how quickly we returned to the ways of the world.

An example of this is illustrated through a new movie that was recently released called “Harry Potter and the

Sorcerers Stone.” It broke most, if not all, records for movie viewing. As a nation we were singing “God bless America” which was wonderful and encouraging, and then we embraced a movie about witchcraft and sorcery, quickly making it one of the top entertainment activities in our country. This is like asking God to bless us while we shake our fist at Him and spit in His face. How could we be so blind? Because we are being *deceived!* This is the height of *deception* and hypocrisy. How could we stab God in the heart and hurt Him the way we are when He has so blessed our country? Tears well up in my eyes when I think about how far we have fallen into *deception* and what it is doing to our country and our people.

We need **deliverance** from our attachment to the ways of the world. We need to repent and cry out for the Lord to have mercy on us. He has been so good to America, yet how quickly we turn our back on Him and His Word. In the Old Testament it is recorded that Israel did the same thing. We also learn from the Scriptures that the only way God could correct them was through judgment. It was the only way the people would listen.

### THE POSSIBILITY OF GOD'S JUDGMENT FALLING ON AMERICA

**H**ealing the “spiritual heart disease” of *deception* in America is in the Lord’s hands. If Dr. Billy Graham is correct in his research that over 90% of the Christians living in America are living defeated spiritual lives, there is a strong possibility that **the Lord will bring judgment to protect His people** from being overcome by the powerful worldly influence in our society.

My brother, Dr. Charles Fraley, who was a victim of *deception* sought the Lord for seven months in a state of agonizing repentance, seeking to restore

his relationship with the Lord. He asked the Lord why so many Christians in America seem to be living such defeated spiritual lives. The Lord showed him through a vision of a large head of a “beast” that Christians were being overcome and *deceived* by the enemy through the influence of the materialistic and pleasure-seeking lifestyles that have developed in our country.

Christian leaders in our country have said that America is racing toward God’s judgment—Dr. Billy Graham, David Wilkerson, Dr. Henry Blackaby, James Robison, Pat Robertson, Tommy Barnett, Larry Burkett, Bill McCartney—to name but a few.

The signs of the time definitely indicate that a time of testing, discipline, judgment, a good whipping, spiritual surgery or whatever you may call it, is going to fall on America. God must



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discipline those He has blessed if they become misguided and careless in their style of living. It is His way of correcting those He loves. “...the Lord disciplines those he loves” (Hebrews 12:6). When you consider all that Jesus has done for each of us and the overabundance of resources we have in America to learn about Him, we are without

## SPIRITUAL NURSES

excuse for our lack of commitment. We don't seem to recognize that **our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.** *"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you...You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body"* (1 Corinthians 6:19&20). It is our responsibility to be careful that we keep our body undefiled for Him. God does hold us accountable. *"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded"* (Luke 12:48).

If God's judgments are a possibility, you should have some understanding of how to prepare yourself to endure these last days. According to the biblical teachings I have studied, I believe most of us are not ready for what is coming.

I do not have the space to discuss how Christians should prepare for the coming time of God's discipline. This subject, along with other biblical teachings about the last days, is covered in our book *Caught in the Web of Deception*. A Word the Lord has given me for the days ahead is: **Fear not the days to come, but fear this only: That you shall walk in a manner pleasing to the Lord.**

I also recommend David Wilkerson's newsletters. His newsletters are available free of charge from World Challenge and are mailed out every three weeks. Call 903-963-8626 or send an e-mail to

[texas@worldchallenge.org](mailto:texas@worldchallenge.org). to be added to their mailing list. To get some of his thoughts on the 9-11 tragedy, request his back issues starting with the 10-8-01 newsletter.

## SPIRITUAL DOCTORS

There will be a great need for Christian servants to help the many people who will be devastated during the coming time of the Lord's discipline.

**This is critical!** Even though in many ways we have turned our back on the Lord and His standards, He has shown me that because of the great love He has for His people, He is going to raise up an army of "spiritual doctors." Their mission will be to help tend to the wounds of the many people who will be broken during and after His time of judgment. Just as a person needs a lot of love and tender care after physical surgery, the same will be true after the Lord's spiritual surgery.

If you should feel the Lord's call to be a "spiritual doctor" in the time of the Lord's coming judgment, would you pray about it and let us know at Christian Life Outreach? We want to forward you any information or directions that we might receive on this subject. As a "spiritual doctor" you should know that it would be necessary for you to minister His love, comfort, peace and security to the healing of others regardless of their past. His Word to guide these "spiritual doc-



tors” will be “... *perfect love drives out fear...*” (1 John 4:19).

## KNOW YOUR ENEMY

### KNOW YOUR ENEMY

“**F**or our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms” (Ephesians 6:12). In military warfare and other human endeavors, such as sports, we research and study our competition or enemy. We do this to help prepare ourselves to be victorious. In spiritual warfare it is even more important for the Christian to follow this principle. This booklet is being sent to Christians throughout America—**free of charge**—to help them see the spiritual warfare of *deception* that has hurt so many people in our country.

Would you help stand against God’s enemy and his attacks of *deception*? Share this message with your friends, relatives and church members. Send us their address and we will mail them a copy of this booklet. Send us your church directory! Better yet, would you distribute this booklet to these people and to other Christians? This would save us the cost of postage and addressing.

We will send you—**free of charge**—the number of copies of this booklet that you wish to distribute. Use the reply form at the back of this booklet to let us know how many copies you want.

Use this same reply form to indicate if you are interested in receiving additional biblical teachings, as they become available, that can help Christians prepare for our changing times. And you can use the same reply form to order a copy of the book *Caught in the Web of Deception* or you can buy it at a Chris-

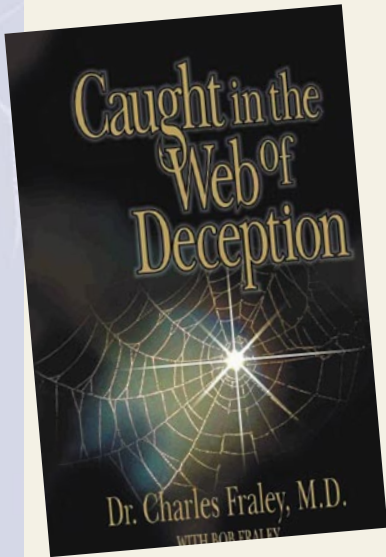


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# Caught in the Web of Deception

Dr. Charles Fraley, M.D. with Bob Fraley

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*Dear Not*

**THE DAYS TO COME,  
BUT FEAR THIS ONLY:  
THAT YOU SHALL  
WALK IN A MANNER  
PLEASING TO  
THE LORD.**