

"The Deceived Heart"

By J. M. Little
Special To The Post
The greatest thing in all this universe is just to know Christ as your Lord and your Saviour. Do you know Him as your Lord and your Saviour? I do. And I know that but for the distinguishing grace of God I'd be in the other fellow's place, with a deceived heart and knowing nor caring nothing about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Every soul out of Christ has a deceived heart. Every soul out of Christ is a child of the Devil, that's why you have a deceived heart. This message grew out of an incident that took place here at the office just the other day. A man with a deceived heart stood here in the office and boasted of who he is. I never answered his boasting. It is sad that he knows not whom he is. Every captive of Satan is deceived on three points; why you are by nature, what you are by nature, and the judgment you are under. Every child of the Devil is proud just like the Devil. It was the sin of pride that got Satan kicked out of Heaven and every child of his is puffed up in pride. That's why you are not saved.

"THE PRIDE OF THINE HEART HATH DECEIVED THEE, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground? Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD." (Obadiah 1:3-4). That is the deceived heart of every soul out of Christ. One day on your death bed you'll see just what a fool you were for exalting yourself in pride, and the Devil will say to you; "Now, I'm going to give you your reward for all your works, here's Hell for you!" Friend, I know what it means to have a deceived heart, every born-again believer does. One day the blessed Holy Spirit opened my heart and revealed my heart to me through the Word of God. What blessedness! I told the folks at Mt. Pilgrim that I thank the Lord He didn't let me die back there when I was teaching the Bible class. If the Lord had cut me off then, I'd be kicking and screaming in Hell right now. When I was teaching the Bible class I was a very proud soul and deceived just like this man who came to me here in the post office. Some of you are so proud you can't even listen to one word someone has to say to you. Some of our preachers are like that. No proud man is saved!

Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a Publican. Now how did the Pharisee pray? "...God, I thank Thee, that I am not as other men are, extor-



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Second in series

tioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this Publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." There we see a proud heart, a deceived heart, boasting of what he is. Note all the I's in his prayer. Everything was I. He felt himself above the old Publican standing afar. Read the whole story there in Luke 18 and see that the Publican got saved but not the proud Pharisee. This proud man looked down on the old sinner weeping over there in the corner. Friend, you'd give ten million worlds to be in the place of that old Publican. Before you can be saved, you must be stripped of all your pride. God has to hide pride from you before He can save you. By nature you are proud, that's the nature of the Devil. Before you are saved, if you ever are to be saved, you are going to be so broken that the old yellow dog in the backyard could lead you around. That's so! The spirit of pride is the spirit of the Antichrist.

In the fourth chapter of Daniel we have the story of a very proud man who was king over Babylon. At that time Babylon stood as the world power. Nebuchadnezzar was so proud. But for seven years he was turned out with the beasts of the pasture. It took all that to break his hellish pride. But God had mercy on that man. Listen to his testimony after God saved him; "And at the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured Him that liveth forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can

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