



THE SURE WORD

LESSON 12: THE FIRST GREAT DECEPTION

Name:

Date:

1. What was the penalty for disobedience that God explained to Adam and Eve? Genesis 2:16, 17.

16 "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

2. What was the first great deception on earth? Genesis 3:4.

"And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die."

The first great deception that Satan insinuated on earth was that man would not die. It is from this great lie that the pagan teaching of "life after death" or "reincarnation" stemmed. This doctrine has also found its way into the Christian churches of the world in a more deceptive, yet equally destructive, manner.

3. How does the Bible use the word "soul"? Exodus 1:5.

And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already."

"And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls." Acts 27:37.

4. How did God create man and what did man become? Genesis 2:7.

"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

DUST + BREATH = SOUL

The Biblical definition of a soul is simply a breathing body. Notice that the text does not say that man was given a soul, but rather he became a soul. A soul is not something a person has, it is the person.

Souls have blood (Jeremiah 2:34). "Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents: I have not found it by secret search, but upon all these."



Not only are people souls, but so are fish and animals (Revelation 16:3). "And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea."

The Hebrew word for soul, nephesh, is variously translated "person" (Genesis 14:21), "self" (Leviticus 11:43), "life" (Psalm 31:13), "me" (Judges 16:30), "creature" (Genesis 1:21), "beast" (Leviticus 24:18), "man" (2 Kings 12:4), "thing" (Ezekiel 47:9), and "fish" (Isaiah 19:10). When translated "body" the nephesh is usually dead (Leviticus 21:11).

The Greek word for soul, psuche, has the same meaning. In Matthew 16:25 Jesus commends anyone who will lose his soul (psuche) for Christ's sake. It is often translated simply as "life" (Matthew 2:20). It means "person" (Acts 7:14). "My soul" and "your soul" are idiomatic

Lesson 12 Work Sheet

expressions meaning "I" and "you" (Matthew 12:18; 2 Corinthians 12:15, margin).

5. How are the steps God used in creating a soul reversed at death?

Psalm 104:29.

"Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust."

SOUL - BREATH = DUST

"If he set his heart upon man, if he gather unto himself his spirit and his breath; all flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust." **Job 34:14, 15.**

6. Can a soul die? Ezekiel 18:20.

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."

7. When a person dies, what is left? Genesis 3:19.

"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

8. What returns back to God at death? Ecclesiastes 12:7.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."

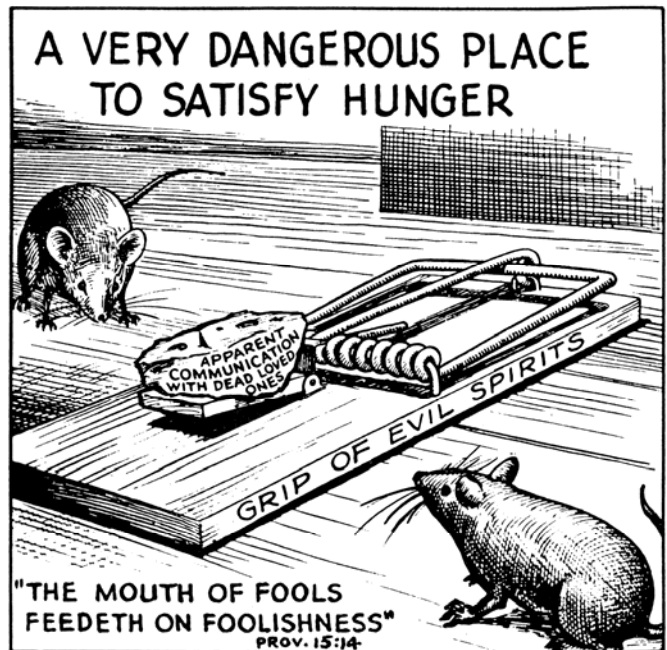
9. Where is this spirit located in a person? Job 27:3.

"All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils;"

10. What is it that is found in a person's nostrils? Genesis 7:22; Isaiah 2:22

"All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land." Genesis 7:22; "Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?" Isaiah 2:22

The Hebrew word for spirit (and ghost, Job 3:11), *ruach*, and the Greek word, *pneuma*, mean breath, wind, or vital element. It is the spark of life which makes you able to live. It is "the breath of the Almighty" (Job



33:4). When the Bible uses those words regarding man, not once does it say that *ruach* or *pneuma* is something in man that retains consciousness after the person dies.

Angels are called spirits (Psalm 104:4) because to human eyes they are as invisible as breath. However, man does not possess the nature of angels (Psalm 8:5), nor does the Bible indicate that he assumes it at death.

11. What leaves a man when he dies? Psalm 146:4.

"His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."

12. Is a person's breath any different from that of beasts? Ecclesiastes 3:19.

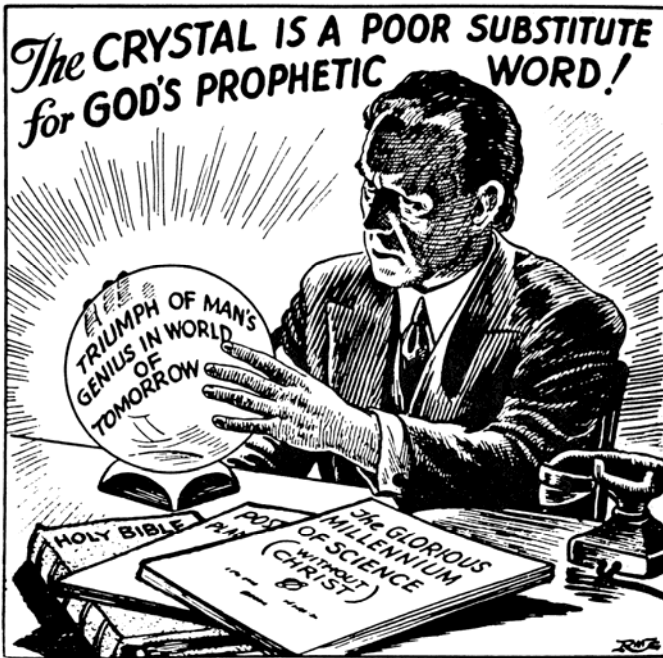
"For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity."

Lesson 12 Work Sheet

13. Is there any difference between a dead man and a dead beast? Ecclesiastes 3:20.

“All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.”

A soul is like the light that results when a light bulb is connected to a power source. The spirit, or breath of life, is the electric current. Electricity will produce light only while it is flowing through the bulb. When the filament in the bulb breaks, the electrical circuit is broken, and the light goes out. Just as the light cannot exist unless there is both electricity and a bulb, so there must be both the breath of life and a



functional body in order for there to be a living soul.

14. After a person dies, can he return and appear to anyone? Job 7:8-10 ; Job 16:22.

“The eye of him that hath seen me shall see me no more: thine eyes are upon me, and I am not. 9 As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away: so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more. 10 He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more.” Job 7:8-10; “When a few years are come, then I shall go the way whence I shall not return.” Job 16:22.

15. In the last days what will people begin to listen to? 1 Timothy 4:1.
“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;”

16. What type of spirits will appear, working miracles? Revelation 16:14.

“For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”

17. In the garden of Eden, what did Satan disguise himself as? Genesis 3:1.

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

18. What else can Satan transform himself into? 2 Corinthians 11:14.

“And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”

19. What can the Devil's demons appear as? 2 Corinthians 11:15.

“Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

20. How can we test people who claim spiritual insight??? Isaiah 8:20.

“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.”



Lesson 12 Work Sheet

21. Instead of trying to contact the dead, going to mediums and wizards, whom should God's people seek for truth? Isaiah 8:19.

"And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?"

22. Who will not be found among God's people? Deuteronomy 18:10, 11.

10 "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, 11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer."

23. All that do those things are what? Deuteronomy 18:12.

"For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee."

24. How did the Apostle Paul address a sorcerer? Acts 13:10.

"And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?"

25. Can a person have fellowship with the Lord and with devils? 1 Corinthians 10:21.

"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils."

26. In light of the prevailing wicked influences around us, what does God instruct His people to do? 2 Corinthians 6:17.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,"

Christians will have nothing to do with magic, fortune telling, horoscopes or séances; or games, books, movies or toys containing elements of witchcraft or spiritualism.

Considering God's Sure Word...

Do you understand that a soul is a living breathing body, whether man or beast, and that one's spirit is the life-giving breath from God?

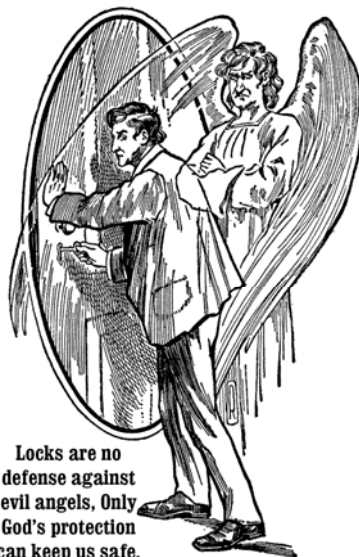
Do you understand that the soul dies when the breath ceases, and that the dead cannot communicate?

Tricks of the Spirit World

Here is the true story of a very unusual case which shows what deceptive lengths lying spirits will go in their efforts to capture someone.

It was during the dark days of World War II. The dread word had come to a widowed mother: 'Your son—missing in action.' A neighbor who had also lost a son in the war invited her to attend a monthly meeting at a séance, during which a medium brought up the spirits of the dead.

Mrs. Dorcas hesitated. Tears were in her eyes, uncertainty in her voice. She was told that her only son had appeared in that séance she had not attended, and wanted to talk with her. What should she do? She had been taught from the Scriptures that **'the dead know not anything, neither have they anymore a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred and their envy is now perished'** (Eccl. 9:5-6).



Locks are no defense against evil angels. Only God's protection can keep us safe.

Loneliness in conflict with conscience, a moment of hesitation. Then she said, 'I'll go just once.' But she went twice; and then, again and again she returned. She wrote to her pastor, 'Please drop my name from your church records. I no longer believe as you do.'

The days, weeks and months passed by. The war was finally over.

One day there was a knock upon the front door of the Dorcas home. Mother Dorcas stood there transfixed, terrified. It was her son. 'Mother, what's the matter? Let me in.'

'You're not my son,' she cried, 'You're dead!'

'No, I'm very much alive,' said the son. 'I've been in a concentration camp.'

The next Sabbath mother and son went back to the church.

Who spoke to Mrs. Dorcas through the medium? Not her son. Not an angel from heaven. It must have been a fallen angel, a demon spirit pretending to be her son.—Varner J. Johns, *Spirits of Devils Working Miracles*, p. 9.