

Let No Man Deceive You
(1 John 3:7)

Introduction:

1. In his letter John used several terms to express his affection for his readers, including *"beloved"* and *"little children."*
2. As John referred to his readers as *"little children"* in this verse, he issued a strong warning against deceivers.
3. Similar warnings are given throughout the New Testament.
 - a. Romans 16:17-18
 - b. Ephesians 5:6 -- *"Let no man deceive you with vain words."*
 - c. 2 Thessalonians 2:3a -- *"Let no man deceive you by any means."*
4. We learn from 2 John 7 why this warning is necessary -- even during the time of the apostles there was an abundance of *"deceivers."*
5. Unfortunately, there is still an abundance of deceivers today, and we must heed this warning given by John -- *"let no man deceive you."*
6. In our lesson we are examining 3 specific areas in which we must not allow anyone to deceive us.

Discussion:

- I. WE MUST NOT ALLOW ANYONE TO DECEIVE US ABOUT WHO WILL GO TO HEAVEN (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)
 - A. Contrary to the teaching of deceivers, Jesus said that *"few"* will be saved, and *"many"* will be lost (Matthew 7:13-14).
 - B. The Bible reveals who will be among the many, including:
 1. *"the unrighteous"* who engage in sinful activities such as those listed in:
 - a. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10
 - b. Galatians 5:19-21
 - c. Ephesians 5:3-5
 2. those who do not obey the Gospel (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)
 3. those who fall away (2 Peter 2:20-21).
 - C. Thankfully, cleansing from sin is available (1 Corinthians 6:11; Acts 18:8).
 - D. The Bible is very clear about who will and who will not go to heaven -- we must not allow anyone to deceive us.
- II. WE MUST NOT ALLOW ANYONE TO DECEIVE US ABOUT THE INFLUENCE OF EVIL COMPANIONSHIPS (1 Corinthians 15:33)
 - A. The evil companionships under consideration are identified in vs.12.
 - B. In vs.13-19 Paul dealt with the consequences of this false doctrine.
 - C. Thankfully, Christ made it possible for us to be raised (vs.20-22).
 - D. According to vs.58, looking forward to the resurrection should motivate us to serve the Lord faithfully.
 - E. We need to learn a lesson from the Israelites (1 Corinthians 10:8).
- III. WE MUST NOT ALLOW ANYONE TO DECEIVE US ABOUT THE LAW OF SOWING AND REAPING (Galatians 6:7)
 - A. In agriculture a farmer reaps on the basis of what he sows.
 - B. A spiritual application of this law is given in vs.8.
 1. We have 2 choices -- we can sow to the flesh or we can sow to the Spirit.
 2. The destiny of our souls is at stake -- on the basis of how we sow, we will reap accordingly.
 3. Let us follow the instructions given in vs.9-10.

Conclusion:

1. The Bible warns us not to allow anyone to deceive us.
2. Let us follow the truth concerning:
 - a. who will go to heaven
 - b. the influence of evil companionships
 - c. the law of sowing and reaping.