

MAY 20, 2025

“BE YE NOT DECEIVED, BUT OVERCOME!”

Good Afternoon, Everyone!

LET’S PRAY! Father YAHWEH, please let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be always acceptable in thy sight O LORD, my Strength and my Redeemer! AMEN!

Today, we are going to talk about what YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, said to the Religious Elite of His Day before He was crucified by them for what He had said to them. This was the original deplatforming and censoring of our Lord and Savior, Himself, for which He was Crucified in 30 A.D.

Since the martyrdom of Stephen in Acts Chapters 7 and 8 at the hands of the Pharisees, this deplatforming, censoring, and murdering has been affecting ALL True Christians throughout the Centuries up to the present day. Now, ALL OF US have had our Freedoms of Speech and Religion, as well as our other GOD GIVEN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS, curtailed and/or taken away by the Enemies of Father YAHWEH and Lord YAHSHUA, wherein today, the majority of us across the world have been deplatformed, censored, targeted, and even died, for our words! Why did this happen?

But this was prophesied by OUR LORD and SAVIOR, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, HIMSELF in John Chapter 15, Verses 18, 19, 20b, and 23b, wherein He states, “**If the world hate you, consider that it hated**

ME before you. If ye were of the world, the world would love its own. Now because you are not of the world, but I HAVE CHOSEN YOU OUT OF THE WORLD, therefore the world hateth you...If they persecuted ME, they will also persecute you...He who hateth ME, hateth MY FATHER also.”

Please turn in your Bibles to John Chapter 17. You will note that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, went even further in His Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane right before He was betrayed by Judas Iscariot. He prayed the following:

“Having spoken this, Jesus raised His Eyes to Heaven, and said,

“Father the hour is come. Glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son may glorify Thee; that, as Thou hast given Him power over **ALL FLESH**, He may, according to all that Thou hast given Him, give to these **EVERLASTING LIFE**. Now this is the **LIFE EVERLASTING** that they may know Thee the Only True God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I have glorified Thee on the Earth; I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do. Now therefore, O Father, glorify Thou Me, with Thyself, with that glory **which I had in Thy Presence before the world was**. I have made known Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy Word. They now know that all those things which thou gavest Me, come from Thee. Because I have given them the Doctrines which Thou gavest Me, therefore they have

received them, and know certainly that I came forth from Thee; and believe that Thou didst send Me. **I PRAY FOR THEM. I AM NOT PRAYING FOR THE WORLD, BUT FOR THEM WHOM THOU GAVEST ME.** Because they are Thine, and ALL THINGS that are Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I AM glorified by them, and AM no long in this world, but these are in this world, and I AM coming to Thee: **Holy Father, keep in Thy Name them Whom Thou gavest Me that they may be One as we are.** While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Thy Name. Them whom Thou gavest, I have guarded, and **NONE OF THEM IS LOST**, unless it be **the Son of Perdition**, so that the Scripture is fulfilled; but I am now coming to Thee, and I speak these things in this

world, that they may have their joy in Me completed in them. I have given them Thy Word, and the world hath HATED THEM, because THEY ARE NOT OF THE WORLD AS I AM NOT OF THE WORLD. I do not ask Thee to remove them out of the world, but to preserve them from The EVIL ONE. THEY ARE NOT OF THE WORLD, as I am not of the world. Consecrate them for Thy TRUTH. THE WORD which is Thine, is TRUTH. As Thou hast sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for them I consecrate Myself, that they may be consecrated for TRUTH.

Now I do not pray for these only, but FOR THOSE ALSO WHO SHALL BY MEANS OF THEIR WORD BELIEVE IN ME, that ALL may be

ONE – as thou, Father, art in Me and I in Thee, that they also may be ONE in Us – that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me, and that I have given them the glory which Thou gavest Me, that they may be ONE as WE ARE ONE – I in them and Thou in Me, that they may be taken into UNION, and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and HAST LOVED THEM AS THOU HAST LOVED ME. O Father, with respect to them Whom Thou hast given Me, My desire is that where I AM, they may be with Me, that they may behold My Glory which Thou hast given Me, because Thou lovedst Me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, though the world did not know Thee, I knew Thee, and these have known that Thou didst send Me. I have made

**known Thy Name to them, and I will make it known,
that the love with which Thou hast loved Me may be
in them and I in them.”**

You will note that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, was NOT of this world (system) and that we, as well, who believe in Him are NOT of this world (system). He prayed to Father YAHWEH for US, **NOT THE WORLD!** He also prayed for Him to keep us from **THE EVIL ONE!**

Based on Revelation Chapter 20, Verses 1 and 2, we know that **THE EVIL ONE IS THE DRAGON, THE OLD SERPENT WHICH IS THE DEVIL AND SATAN!** And we know from Second Esdras Chapter 6, Verse 9, what this world (system) in which we live today is – **“For Esau is the End of this Age (AION), and**

Jacob is the Beginning of the Age that follows.” We are living in the Age of Mystery, Babylon the Great, which is Edomic in nature – Politically/Militarily, Economically, and Religiously. Remember what Father YAHWEH stated in both Malachi 1:2-3 and Romans 9:13 – **“Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.”** For what happens to Esau/Edom, please read The Book of Obadiah, but Verse 18 specifically states:

“And the House of Jacob shall possess those who possessed them; and the House of Jacob shall be a FIRE, and the House of Joseph, a FLAME; and the House of Esau shall be as STUBBLE; and upon these they shall kindle and consume them, so that there shall NOT be a torchbearer to the House of Esau. For The LORD hath spoken.”

So, we are in GOOD HANDS and should NEVER FEAR WHAT THE WORLD WILL DO TO US! The world HATED Him first, and so, IF WE BELONG TO HIM, we know that the world will HATE us as well! This was also prophesied by Him in John Chapter 16, Verse 33, wherein He stated, “**These things I have spoken to you, that you may have peace in Me. In this world, YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE/ TRIBULATION; but take courage: I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD.”**

Throughout the Book of Revelation, we are rewarded **IF** we **OVERCOME** the things in this world!

As Christians, we know that the majority of the prophecies in the Books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts were spoken into existence by our Lord and

Savior, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, in His Discourses on the Mount of Olives and in the Temple during His last week on the Earth. YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, warned His Ekklesia (i.e., the called-out assembly of believers in Him from the houses of Israel and of Judah) to **not be deceived.**

Matthew Chapter 24, Verse 4 states, “**Take heed that no man deceive you.**”

Mark Chapter 13, Verse 5 states, “**Take heed lest any man deceive you.**”

Luke Chapter 21, Verse 8 states, “**Take heed that ye be not deceived.**”

The word *deceive(d)* is the Greek word *planao* (Strong’s No. G4105), which means “**to cause to roam**

from safety, truth, or virtue; to go astray, deceive, err, seduce, wander, be out of the way.” The Matthew and Mark Accounts, popularly known as **The Olivet Discourse**, were directed to the Ekklesias in **The Last Century on the Earth**, while the Luke Account, known as **The Temple Discourse**, was directed to the Ekklesias in **The First Century A.D.**

However, with that being said, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, also made time-constrained caveats in Matthew Chapter 24, Verse 34 that **“this Generation shall *not* pass, until *all* these things be fulfilled;”** in Mark 14:30 that **“this Generation shall *not* pass, till all these things be done;”** and in Luke 21:32 that **“this Generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.”**

So YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, was warning His Ekklesias, both the First Generation of Christians in the First Century A.D. and the Last Generation of Christians in the Twenty-First Century A.D., which is us today, to *not be deceived* and that *this generation shall not pass until* the signs, as described in these Discourses, were fulfilled. Per the Luke Temple Discourse, the destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem in A.D. 70 was fulfilled as prophesied by YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ. According to Josephus's account of the Roman destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, over 1.1 million Edomite Jews were killed (with hardly any Christians being killed), and 97,000 Jews were captured. Why was this? Well, First Century Christians had **READ THE PROPHECIES** of YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, **BELIEVED HIS**

WORD, and *ESCAPED* when they saw the signs as described by YAHSHUA taking place, while the Edomite Jews, who rejected YAHSHUA and ignored His signs and warnings, were subsequently killed.

To understand what was happening, this was YAHSHUA, Jesus Christ's last week on the Earth.

On Sunday, Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem where He was proclaimed as the Messiah in Matthew Chapter 21, Verses 8 through 11, Mark Chapter 11, Verses 8 through 10, Luke Chapter 19, Verses 36 through 38, John Chapter 12, Verses 12 through 18.

On Monday, Jesus cleansed the temple a second time, casting out the money changers and those who were doing business within the temple walls in Matthew

Chapter 21, Verses 12 through 13, Mark Chapter 11, Verses 15 through 17, Luke Chapter 19, Verses 45 through 46. What do you think that He is going to do when He comes back?

YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, then took on Himself the right and authority to teach in the Temple, coming into conflict with the priests and elders in Matthew Chapter 21, Verse 23 through Chapter 22, Verse 14, the Pharisees and Herodians in Matthew Chapter 22, Verses 15 through 22, the Sadducees in Matthew Chapter 22, Verses 23 through 33, and the Pharisees yet again in Matthew 22, Verses 34 through 36.

As a result of this, **on Tuesday**, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ then condemned the false religions, the false

religionists, the sacrificial system, the Temple, Jerusalem, and Israel as a whole.

On Tuesday, Jesus spoke to the crowds and His disciples, warning about false religion. Please turn in your Bibles to Matthew Chapter 23. I will also be using The Preacher's Outline and Sermon Bible on Matthew Chapter 23.

1. **False religion is a religion that claims to “sit” in the truth (Moses’s seat).**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 2 states, “**The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat.**”

2. **False religion is a religion of hypocrisy.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 3 states, “**All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe,**

that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.”

3. False religion is a religion of heavy burdens.

Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 4 states, **“For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.”**

4. False religion is a religion of show, of display.

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 5 through 7 states, **“But all their works they do for to be seen of**

men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, and love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets, and to be called to men, Rabbi, Rabbi.”

5. **False religion is a religion to be guarded against.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 8 through 12 states, **“But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. And call no man your Father upon the Earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. But he that is**

greatest among you shall be your servant.

And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.”

After condemning false religion, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, then turned His attention to the false religionists - the religious elite of His day) (which are only found in The Gospel of Matthew):

- 1. False religionists shut the door of heaven against seekers.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 13 states, “**But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against**

men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.”

- 2. False religionists use the guise of religion for greed, especially to steal from widows.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 14 states, **“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayer: therefore, ye shall receive the greater damnation.”**

- 3. False religionists are missionaries who double the corruption of new followers.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 15 states, **“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye compass sea and land to make one**

proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.”

- 4. False religionists mislead others; they are blind guides in oaths and commitments.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 16 through 22 states, **“Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing: but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? And whoso shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon.”**

5. **False religionists stress the lighter commandments and neglect the more important ones.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 23 and 24 state,

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.”

6. **False religionists are blind to real cleanness.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 25 and 26 state,

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees,

hypocrites! For ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within them are full of extortion and excess. Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter that the outside of them may be clean also.”

7. False religionists disguise inner decay.

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 27 and 28 state,
“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness. Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.”

8. False religionists pride themselves in a godly heritage.

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 29 through 33 states, **“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchers of the righteous, and say, If we had been in the days of our Fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your Fathers. YE SERPENTS, YE GENERATION (RACE) OF VIPERS, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?”**

Race of Vipers equals Seed of the Serpent!

9. **False religionists reject and abuse many of God's messengers.**

Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 34 through 36 state, “**Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the Earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say**

unto you, all these things shall come upon this generation.”

So, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, called out all of the righteous martyrs from Abel to Zacharias, John the Baptist’s Father, who was murdered on Herod’s orders.

The term *woe* is the Greek word *ouai* (Strong’s No. G3759) and is defined as “**a primary exclamation of grief.**”

According to The Preacher’s Sermon and Outline Bible:

Woe means both wrath and sorrow, anger and pity. There is not a single English word to express what it means. It is a grieving denunciation; a

sorrowful wrath; a pitying anger. It is a Godly threat.

The term *hypocrite(s)* is the Greek word, *hupokrites*, (Strong's No. G5273) and is defined as “**an actor under an assumed character (stage-player), i.e., a dissembler (hypocrite)**” and the Greek word, *hupokrinomai*, (Strong's No. G5271) is defined as “**to decide (speak or act) under a false part, to dissemble (pretend)—feign.**”

According to The Preacher's Sermon and Outline Bible, the word, *hypocrites*, (*hupokrites*) is:

One who pretends, puts on a show, acts out something he is not. At first, the word simply meant one who replied or answered. Then, it

came to mean acting, as actors play-acted the lines of a scene. Finally, the word was used in the worst sense: play-acting; pretending; one who wore a mask to hide his real self; one who acted one way, but who was really another way; one who put on an outward show.

The false religionists (i.e., the scribes and the Pharisees) were **hypocrites** in that:

- 1. They acted as though they believed and loved God, yet they did not accept God's Son.**
- 2. They pretended to be seeking God, but they were really seeking profession, esteem, recognition, honor, position, power, and security.**

- 3. They showed a concern for the things of God, but they were really concerned with the things of this world.**
- 4. They acted humble and helpful, but they were really full of pride, envy, possessiveness, selfishness, and covetousness.**
- 5. They claimed to be ministers of God's religion, but they were really ministers of a man-made religion, a religion that honored man's ability to be good and to do enough good to become acceptable to God.**
- 6. They professed God's Words, but they added to and took away from His Word.**

In other words, what YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, said to the false religionists of His day, also went for the false religionists of today:

1. **Hypocrites shall receive the greater damnation** (Matthew 23:14).
2. **Hypocrites are children of Hell** (Matthew 23:15).
3. **Hypocrites are fools, and they are blind** (Matthew 23:17, 19).
4. **Hypocrites are blind guides** (Matthew 23:24).
5. **Hypocrites are full of extortion and excess** (Matthew 23:25).

6. Hypocrites are full of all uncleanness

(Matthew 23:27).

7. Hypocrites are serpents, a generation/race of vipers (Matthew 23:33).

8. Hypocrites shall not escape the damnation of Hell (Matthew 23:33).

As if that was not enough, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, then lamented and pronounced judgment on Jerusalem (The City of YAHWEH) and House of Judah (The Other People of YAHWEH) in Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 37 through 39:

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children

together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! *Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see Me henceforth, till ye shall say, *Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**”

In this, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, stated:

1. In Verse 37, the past sin of Jerusalem, which was the persecution of God’s messengers.
2. In Verse 37, His great love for Jerusalem in which He longed to gather the people under His care.
3. In Verse 37, the great sin of Jerusalem which was the rejection of the Messiah.

4. In Verses 38 and 39, the terrifying judgment on Jerusalem.
5. In Verse 39, the glorious prediction that Jerusalem and Israel would proclaim the Messiah.

In Matthew Chapter 23, Verse 37, the great sin of Jerusalem was this:

The people rejected God's Only begotten Son. Note the words, *ye would not*. He would have saved them, but they would not be saved. They heard Christ; they saw Christ; they were even able to touch Christ (I John 1:1), but they rejected Him. **And their rejection was deliberate (and final)!**

In Matthew Chapter 23, Verses 38 through 39, the terrifying judgment on Jerusalem was threefold:

1. **Their house was to be deserted by God, “left in their own hands.”**

The word, *house*, referred to their Temple, their nation, and their lives. They wanted control of all, to do as they willed with their lives and possessions. Christ said that God would grant their wish. God’s presence was going to depart their Temple, their nation, and their lives, and He was going to leave all in their hands.

2. **Their house was to be desolated. It was to be destroyed.**

This would be a reference both to Earthly judgment (the lack of God's presence) when Jerusalem was devastated by Titus Vespasian in A.D. 70 and to eternal judgment as found in Hebrews Chapter 9, Verse 27.

3. They would thereafter be unable to see Christ.

a. They would not be able to see Him soon.

He was departing the world, dying, and ascending into God's presence. They would not see Him again until He returned.

b. They would continue to be blind and obstinate in their unbelief. They would not submit to Christ as the Messiah, the very

Son of God. Therefore, they would be blinded as part of the judgment of God as prophesied in Romans Chapter 11, Verses 7 through 10, and Verse 25).

These same three judgments would be applicable to us today—to every man, woman, child, and nation who walked in obstinate disbelief. As a result:

1. **Father YAHWEH would abandon them;**
2. **Father YAHWEH would destroy them; and
as a result,**
3. **They would be unable to see Christ.**

Father YAHWEH's love for His City and His People was perfectly demonstrated when He gave His

Only Begotten Son, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, who was without hesitation, **REJECTED**.

But, after His Once and For All Sacrifice on the Cross at Calvary, His Burial, and His Resurrection, He told His Disciples in Matthew Chapter 28, Verses 19 through 20, “**To go therefore and make ALL THE NATIONS disciples, baptizing them to the NAME of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe ALL that I commanded you. And Lo! I am with you all the days to the conclusion of this age.** **AMEN.**”

And so, we shall do as Our Lord and Savior YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, commanded! Please remember that HE has already conquered Death and the

World! He works through us today if we are willing to submit to His Will.

The worst thing that Satan can do to us today is put improper thoughts in our minds, which can be instantly stopped by **“Bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ!”** So, please always repent of anything done in thought, word, and/or deed as you pray!

LET’S PRAY! We thank you Father YAHWEH for the Bread of Life that we have received today! We also thank You for opening up our ears to hear and our eyes to see Your Word! I pray for all of our brothers and sisters and their families Whom You have brought here today, as well as those watching online! May Your Name be Blessed Among ALL the

Nations! I pray all this in the Name of our Lord and Savior, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ! AMEN!

Now, please receive the Benediction!

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always! AMEN!