



# ZWTF

Zapping You Whenever Thoughts Flow

Volume 8, Issue 3

## Lies in the mouths of prophets.

Lying spirits have been running Christianity for two millennia. God has sent them. But why?



The Christian religion is founded not upon Christ but upon lies and hypocrisies. I've said this before, but maybe not this: *it is not ultimately the religion's fault.* (More on this in a bit.)

This religion takes the name of Christ, but takes it in vain, that is, for uselessness. This is the meaning of the second commandment: "You shall not take the name of the

Lord your God in vain." This has nothing whatsoever to do with cussing, but with calling oneself "Christian" while at the same time disbelieving everything Christ accomplished—namely the overcoming of Adam and the salvation of the world. It is taking the name of God and Christ for personal advantage only ("I want to get to heaven;" "I want to feel good about myself") rather than for the discovery of the heart of God and Christ. This is in fact worse than uselessness because it fans the flame of self-attainment, leaving God somewhere in the periphery as a mere enabler.

Christianity is a Satanic religion. It advertises an actual Savior, but delivers only a potential one. It advertises a sovereign God, but delivers a god hamstrung by human free will. It advertises peace, but delivers fear. It advertises freedom, but delivers bondage. It advertises grace, but delivers law. Hypocrisies and false expressions are objective evidences of Satanic infiltration. Where these are present, so is Satan. This explains the first sentence of my paragraph. As Paul writes in 1 Timothy 4:1-2—

Now the spirit is saying explicitly, that in subsequent eras some will be withdrawing from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and the teachings of demons, in the hypocrisy of false expressions, their own conscience having been cauterized

Christianity is the home of hypocrisy and false expressions. Thus, it is the home of Satan. How and why did this happen?

### IT ALL STARTS IN THE HEAVENLIES

1 Kings, chapter 22 offers us rare insight into how God Himself sends lying spirits into religious bodies in order to demonstrate to the world the vanity of form without power and the dangers of self-serving worship systems. This has to be demonstrated. If it didn't, then

God wouldn't do it. (Pity the people with whom it is demonstrated.) These bodies also serve as foils from which true believers run like hell and against which true believers shine brightly as they run from the systems toward peace and truth.

Another of the functions of self-serving worship systems is to persecute true believers (running after them), allowing these true believers the honor of suffering for the sake of Christ in the manner of Christ, that is, being rejected by popular religion. I'm not saying that God does not also send deceiving spirits into profane organizations, but our concern at present is organizations compromising and hijacking the names of God and Christ. Far from being an anomaly, the account in 1 Kings is a behind-the-scenes look at God's usual methods. Anything coming to Earth—good or evil—comes via God. It all starts in the heavenlies and works down. God controls the levers of power. (Don't worry; He's benevolent.) If this is not so, then He is not God. I make the case that God *is* God. (*Somebody* has to be God.) 1 Kings 22 invites us to peek under the hood at the engine of God's operations.

### TO WAR OR NOT TO WAR

In 1 Kings 22, the kings of Israel and Judah want war against the king of Syria. They inquire of their four-hundred prophets whether they should go and take Ramoth-Gilead, an Israelite city that had been lost to Syria. The four-hundred prophets, with one voice, say "Go up, for the Lord will give it into the hand of the king" (1 Kings 22:6). The problem with these prophets is that the kings of Judah and Israel appointed them to basically tell them what they wanted to hear. They were "yes" men. The kings made a pretense of wanting to "hear from the Lord," but they habitually rejected truths from the Lord spoken by *actual* prophets, because the truth spoken by actual prophets was often unpleasant. No one wants bad news. So these kings—and many more before and after them—heaped up for themselves prophets in accord with their own desires so as to tickle their self-serving ears.

Following the hogwash announcement of the four-hundred prophets, Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, experienced an attack of conscience and said to the assemblage, "Is there not yet a prophet of the Lord here that we may inquire of him? (verse 7)." This proves to me that Jehoshaphat knew the four-hundred prophets to be sycophants. Ahab, king of Israel, said to Jehoshaphat—

There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the Lord, but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. He is Micaiah son of Imlah (verse 8).

### MICAHIAH THE TRUE

Micaiah was a true prophet because he spoke the words of the Lord, which were the words of truth. He did it no matter what it cost him—and it cost him plenty. It cost him a seat in the throne room. Micaiah was a last resort. Truth's invitation usually gets "lost in the mail." Truth eats by itself in a doghouse while falsehood dines sumptuously in the banquet hall. It's a wonder that Micaiah was *any* resort. But the collective conscience of the kings got the better of them and they thought they should call on the one true prophet, if only for the record. They thought that it was probably the right thing to do. God would want them to do it. *They* didn't want to do it, but they instinctively knew that Micaiah was of God and they at least wanted the form of appearing as though they gave a damn about God's thoughts. They didn't actually, but at least the form would assuage their guilt.

The king of Israel called for an officer to bring in Micaiah from his doghouse. (This man was nowhere near the broader assemblage; he had to be fetched.)

Then the messenger who went to summon Micaiah spoke to him saying, "Behold now, the words of the prophets are



Micaiah gets word that they're coming for him.



uniformly favorable to the king. Please let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably.” But Micaiah said, “As the Lord lives, what the Lord says to me, that I shall speak.”

The officer was surely nervous as he accompanied Micaiah into the throne room. The kings of Judah and Israel weren't feeling so hot either, I'm guessing. What happened next is startling. I wouldn't have expected it—

When he came to the king, the king said to him, “Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-Gilead to battle, or shall we refrain?” And he answered him, “Go up and succeed, and the Lord will give it into the hand of the king” (verse 15).

*What?* Why would Micaiah say this when he knew it wasn't true? (He *knew* it wasn't true, as we shall soon see.) I think the bright lights intimidated him; his doghouse was dimly lit. I think the pomp, the circumstance, and the evil gazes of the four-hundred “yes” men momentarily dulled his *medulla oblongata*. This didn't last long, however—

Then the king said to him, “How many times must I adjure you to speak to me nothing but the truth in the name of the Lord?” (verse 16).

Micaiah's *medulla oblongata* snapped back into its cavity and the prophet said—

“I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, like sheep which have no shepherd. And the Lord said, ‘These have no master. Let each of them return to his house in peace’” (verse 17).

This was a nice way of saying: “Don't go. You're all doomed. God told me that you're doomed to be scattered on the mountains around Ramoth-Gilead. The king of Syria has the upper hand. It's a bad day for you. Not only that, but none of you are proper shepherds of Israel. All you care about is yourselves. You only want your territory back, no matter what it costs your people or your soldiers. God's timing doesn't matter, only yours. You want a trophy and you want it now. Then you assume that God wants what you want. This is why you amass kiss-ass ‘prophets’ who tell you what you want to hear. And you keep hiring more. Listen to me, you would be better served, each of you, to head back to your homes and spend a quite evening with the wife and kids. Maybe have a beer.”

Ahab, king of Israel, turned to the official, non-doghouse

people and said, “Did I not tell you that he would not prophesy good concerning me, but evil?” (verse 18).

(Ahab thinks that everything's about him.)

### BACKSTAGE PASS

Micaiah then lowered the boom. Here is the main thing I want you to see. Micaiah saw more than Israel scattered on the mountains without a shepherd. In his vision, Micaiah saw *why* the four-hundred prophets prophesied falsely. He got a look behind the curtain at God's activity (it's His normal activity, though rarely seen) in the lives of humans. Nothing on earth or in the heavens happens apart from God (2 Corinthians 5:18). Every single person on earth does what God wants him or her to do. This is because “God is operating all in



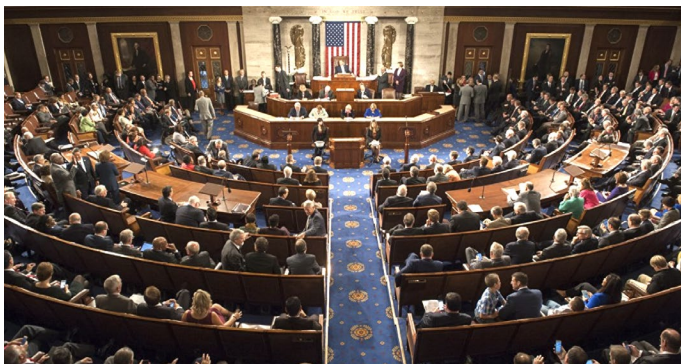
accord with the counsels of His own will” (Ephesians 1:11). Good spirits and bad serve at God's pleasure to influence human beings at every turn. The humans, themselves, feel nothing of the divine coercion, but this has nothing to do with anything. Not feeling it doesn't mean it's not happening. It's usually the first sign that it *is* happening. Listen to this, and then I will apply it to the modern-day pastors and priests of the world's most popular religion, who are similarly afflicted—

Micaiah said, “Therefore, hear the word of the Lord. I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right and on His left. The Lord said, ‘Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-Gilead?’ And one said this while another said that. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord and said, ‘I will entice him.’ The Lord said to him, ‘How?’ And he said, ‘I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ Then

He said, 'You are to entice him and also prevail. Go and do so.' Now therefore, behold, the Lord has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; and the Lord has proclaimed disaster against you (1 Kings 22:19-23).

As Micaiah spoke, the king of Israel and the king of Judah, sat, each of them, on their respective thrones, adorned in their finest robes (verse 10). But there is Another on a throne, and it is God. God's throne makes the thrones of these kings look like milking stools. I am embarrassed for any earthly throne and must look the other way whenever humans occupy one.

Micaiah saw the host of heaven standing by God "on His right and on His left." Just as we have good and bad people on the earth, there are also good and bad spirits far above Earth. These are not dead humans, mind you, but non-human denizens of heaven. It is not a stretch to imagine that the good spirits are on God's right, and evil



ones on His left. (Like Republicans and Democrats in the House of Representatives in the U.S.) It may not be this way. It doesn't matter to me if the parties are integrated. I don't care how the spirits are arranged. What is important to note is that *all* the spirits attend God at His throne. They all answer to Him, both the good and evil. And why shouldn't they, for God Himself is the Creator of both good and evil (Isaiah 45:7), and both good and evil serve His purposes. God needs evil, or else there could be no such thing as good.

Evil is not eternal. Like a scaffold on a house, God dismantles it once the house is built. The house is a universe reconciled to God through the cross of Christ (Colossians 1:20).

God asks, "Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-Gilead?"

Note that it's a foregone conclusion that Israel will fall at Ramoth-Gilead. None of the spirits said, "Would

you consider letting Israel *win* at Ramoth-Gilead?" They didn't dare. (They were not Christians.) None of the spirits formed a prayer circle. (Again, they were not Christians.) God had made up His mind and now it was only a matter of the mechanics.

God let a debate ensue among the spirits. This was a mere formality because God already knew what He wanted to do. But He likes to see the interplay; He likes the participation. He likes to hear the spirits venting as "one said this while another said that" (verse 20). Finally, one spirit announced (I assume this spirit had either seniority or clout; it spoke quite confidently), "I will entice him." God said, "How?" God already knew how, of course, because God knows everything (1 John 3:20). But God wanted to hear the spirit say it because it would make the spirit feel good. Besides, the spirit wanted to participate and get some credit (which it would) from its fellow spirits. Besides, the fellow spirits—unlike God—has no idea what this spirit was going to say. So the spirit piped up and said, "I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets." God said, "Go and do so."

ALL THIS SHIT IS REAL

All this shit is real, by the way.

NOW THINK OF IT

The four-hundred prophets possibly had no idea that they prophesied falsely. Or perhaps they did know and were sucking up consciously to the kings, as suggested earlier. It doesn't matter. Either way, the deception was inspired by the spirit sent directly from God's throne.

Even if you believe in the sovereignty of God, as I do, this presents a troubling thought. If it weren't for the lying spirit, the prophets would have told the truth. The kings, then, would have refrained (possibly) from going to war and lives would have been saved and beer would have been consumed. Why the deception? And why from God? I didn't think God did such things.

Oh, but He does. All the time. In fact, as I said earlier, anything coming to Earth must ultimately come from heaven. Are there deceptions on Earth? Very well then. Since God sends deception (we just saw an example of it), does this make God a deceiver? It is tempting to think so, but resist the temptation. Since God created evil (Isaiah 45:7), does this make God evil? The answer to both questions is "no." A simple human example will illustrate the principle.



Let's say that I want to save my friend from drug addiction. He has nearly killed himself three times over the last seven years and he needs an intervention to save his life. I invite him over to my house on a Sunday afternoon "to watch a football game." But this is a deception. I only *tell* him that I'm inviting him over for football because, in fact, I have amassed a dozen of his friends at my house and we will confront him about his addiction to get him to a rehab facility and save his life.

Is the deception justified? Of course. Why is it justified? Because of the motive. The motive is to save a man's life. Am I a deceiver? No. It is not part of my character. But I deceive in order to save.

God is not a deceiver. But He deceives in order to save—and to do many other things besides save. God disciplines those He loves (Hebrews 12:6). If He doesn't love, then He wouldn't discipline. God intends to discipline Israel with a dose of her own hubris; this is why she must fall at Ramoth-Gilead. It's serious business, yes. Israel must learn the proper stench of self-righteousness. Why does not God simply make Israel righteous to begin with? Because then Israel does not learn the stench of self-righteousness. She must experience it, then be delivered from it. She must know the opposite of it. Only then will she realize that she has been delivered from it. It is God's intention to change the corporate heart

of Israel from stone to flesh. This is in the offing, we know (Ezekiel 36:26). God has promised it. In the meantime, Israel is locked (literally boxed-in by deceiving spirits), into stubbornness (Romans 11:32), by God.

But why does God then judge nations and people whom He Himself has locked up in stubbornness? The judging is for the ultimate benefit of the judged. The judging will benefit the judged in the end, just as the rehab center will benefit my friend. (Are we not judging him at the intervention?)

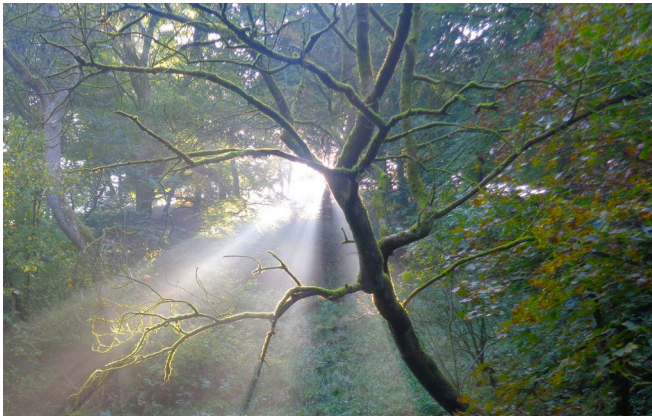
As for evil; was the murder of Jesus Christ evil? Yes. Yet it occurred in accord with the counsel and foreknowledge of God (Acts 2:23). Does the greatest blessing ever known come from the murder of Jesus Christ? Yes it does. All creation is reconciled to God through the blood of the cross (Colossians 1:20). I rest my case. God is not evil, but He creates evil and does evil for the ultimate benefit of His creation. Motive is everything. If evil were not eventually eliminated from the universe, then all of this would all be unspeakable. (Christians teach that evil is eternal; this is more evidence—Exhibit F—that they are satanically insane.) If this, the worst evil ever committed (speaking of the crucifixion of Christ), has already been justified, then all other lesser evils (and they're *all* lesser evils) will be justified.



## A BETTER RESURRECTION

Religious bodies are deceived and made stupid for our sakes as well. What do I mean? There is great spiritual value in suffering at the hands of religious people. The suffering of our Lord was compounded and deepened in that His own people effected it. Same with Joseph: His own brothers sold him into slavery.

Have you ever heard of the term “a better resurrection?” Neither had I until 1982 when my future father-in-law pointed it out in the book of Hebrews, chapter 11 (specifically verse 35). I thought that resurrection was resurrection. It’s not. There are those who rise with greater glory and honor. What produces it? Suffering. Is it suffering for suffering’s sake? No; stubbing one’s toe doesn’t count. It is suffering for the sake of the truth



of God. How does one suffer for this? One must be persecuted. A true believer in God will only be persecuted, however, by people who give a damn (or feign it) about God in the first place, namely those in religious bodies. As Jesus said to His disciples in John 16:2—

For they will be putting you out of the synagogues; but coming is the hour that everyone who is killing you should suppose he is offering divine service to God.

This is the ultimate brand of suffering, accompanied by a commensurate brand of glory far outweighing the glory of those who don’t suffer—poor souls.

Thus, God hardens the world of religion into organized, lying entities for our sakes. He gives them mistranslated Bibles and big sticks. It is our divine privilege to suffer at their hands (Philippians 1:29) as did our Lord in His day. I have told you many times that the Pharisees are alive and well. Today, we call them Chris-

tians. They are still afflicted by deceiving spirits sent by God. They don’t necessarily prophesy (some do), but they all teach. And every single one of their teachings is a lie. They say all the right words, but they don’t believe any of their own utterances. This is the definition of hypocrisy. Hypocrisy is a fancy form of lying. Christians go to war against things they ought not fight, while readily pulling into their camps fatal viruses (errors) that strip them not only of common sense but of common humanity. Error suits their hearing, for it fans the flames of self-righteousness. Free Will and Eternal Torment do this best.

These church people are clueless as to the behind-the-scenes operation making them into such double-talkers. They *think* they have truth, of course. In fact, they believe that *only* they have truth and that *only* they are saved. (The Pharisees thought the same thing.) They feign themselves to be this title and that title: “pastor”; “priest”; “youth pastor”; “prophet”; “evangelist”; “worship leader”—but they are nothing but unwitting deceivers; the dupes of lying spirits. It’s sad. I hate it. I feel sorry for them because it’s ultimately not their fault. In the meantime, we gain immeasurable future glory in the form of a better resurrection. Every time they expel us from their assemblies and trample our truth, our resurrection gets better and better.

## UNCONSCIOUS DECEIT

The startling thing about the deceiving spirit dispatched from the throne of God in 1 Kings 22 is that it entered an ecclesiastical body; and not just any ecclesiastical body, but the Israel of God—the only nation chosen by God to receive the holy Scriptures. Another surprising element is that the targets of the spirit—in this case the four-hundred prophets—were completely unconscious of what motivated them. Even had they been deceiving the kings on purpose, they fancied it their own idea; their own plan; their own sovereign operation; a trick on the state. But it wasn’t. The influence arrived from without. The prophets could do nothing *but* lie.

I think that most prophets—and certainly all modern-day pastors—fancy themselves truth-tellers. This is even more disturbing. They have no idea that they are in fact lying and repelling most of the world from the true God. Sincerity, however, is irrelevant to the operation of a deceiving spirit. In fact, would not the ultimate deception be to have the deceived blissfully unaware of their role?

Be not deceived. —MZ

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