

## Sermon - Willfully Deceived

(Pray)

### 2Th 2:1-12

We are living out the mystery of God. He has allowed this reality to be manifest and for us to experience it.

Free will agents that can choose. Life or Death, blessing or curses, God or self/satan, heaven or hell, Light or darkness, truth or a lie.

Question: If what you were believing was not true, would you want to know?

(Conversation with someone recently that didn't want to know, would rather the lie)

Base levels of humanity: People seek pleasure and avoid pain (wired into the flesh). Jesus chose to go towards pain in the cross. Divine character, looking beyond self and self interest.

### Pro 14:12, Pro 16:25

"There is <sup>H3426</sup> a way <sup>H1870</sup> which seemeth <sup>H3477</sup> right <sup>H6440</sup> unto a man, <sup>H376</sup> but the end <sup>H319</sup> thereof *are* the ways <sup>H1870</sup> of death. <sup>H4194</sup> "

Jesus chose the way and thoughts of God

### Mat 16:20-28

Jesus chose to lay down His life and in doing so made life available for all, the way of man (Peter) in that situation would have lead to spiritual death for all if Jesus was to have saved his life in this world.

All of the disciples after Pentecost understood this reality and lived and died with this Truth in their hearts.

Where else shall we go?

**Joh 6:66** - They no longer walked with Jesus, they chose to walk with the world and for self and in doing so chose death, not life.

Vs. 68 They had received a love for the truth. They still needed an empowering to be able to walk it out, but the love for the Truth was there.

- Had to desire that, willing to obey for that.

Most are deluded and have chosen a lie:

**Mat 7:13-14**

The truth involves a degree of pain, self realization, willful surrender to God, dying to self, coming into the light, ... (called the dark night of the soul)

**Luk 22:61-62** (Peter's experience, a full realization of self)

The Lie lets you continue on with the majority in a fallen world and will tell you that you are O.K. all the way to the grave.

Drugs, Alcohol, Sex/pleasures, sport events, vacations, business ventures, etc. All as means of distraction to keep you from asking and dealing with the hard questions of life.

There are those who have been deluded that will wake up at this time (not many, but some) ... those are the ones we are called to reach out to at this time.

Those who have been preparing themselves will be the ministers of God unto many. Those who have are recently waking up will be those who can testify of God's goodness and the joy of His salvation and His mercy.