Deception

Not all your thoughts are the fruit of your own spirit but sometimes your thoughts are the thoughts of an evil spirit that has entwined himself within your being. Now his thoughts have become your thoughts—even though you think they are your own thoughts. It is his thoughts that trouble you and through your mind and your spirit, he is able to manipulate your body chemistry to produce depression and insanity to whatever degree he desires. Any thought that does not match the knowledge and wisdom of God is the seed of what produces insanity.

2 Pet 2: 13b Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; 14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

2Pe 3:14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

JUD 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. (Recommend reading all of the book of Jude)

Occultism must always produce something in the physical realm to make you believe it is of God. That is why you have to be careful of lying signs and wonders, words and things that are coming in the physical dimension when you should believe God without them.

2 Tim 3:1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. 6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, 7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. 9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

I want to challenge you to be very careful of what offers itself as God. You may not have the true gospel of God at all. You may have another gospel. Whatever is of God has to bear the test of Scripture. It also has to bear the witness of your spirit and it must not bring confusion. Anything that does not match the character and the nature of the living God is cultic because it offers a different identity than what God saw from the foundation of the world.

Try the spirits to see whether or not they are of God. Do not accept counterfeit out of creation, no matter how real it seems. The counterfeit teaches you to avoid your enemy but never defeat him.

1Jo 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Control

Occultism doesn't operate in love; it operates in control. Galatians 5:13-26

Definition: Control
To exercise authoritative or dominating influence over
To adjust to a requirement; regulate
To hold in restraint
A spirit presumed to speak or act through a medium.

Ga 4:31  So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

Ga 5:1  Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

1Co 9:19  For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

1 Peter 2:13-16 13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

In families with patriarchal/matriarchal control, there is a person who is bound by that occultic spirit. These people have to have their hands on every aspect of the family, and the world, and the church, so they can move the pieces around all the time. Their thinking is: "If I don't have my hands on it, nothing is going to work right."

We find parents intruding into their children's lives, trying to control out of Fear. Chronic fatigue syndrome is the result of parental intrusion into a person's life because it was not about what God wanted the kid to be. It is what that parent decided the child was going to be. "My kid is going to this college because I'm going to spend this number of dollars to get them there, and they're going to have to get these grades to make sure they get there. They're going to be trained to do this in life because they need to make money."

Isa 7:15 Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

The result is the child has become bound to a life of performance out of Fear. That is Occultism and it has to be broken.

Distrust also comes out of that control. Because the person, who is now a grown-up, is sure he or she is surrounded by a bunch of incompetent people! They have to make sure to compensate for other's incompetence. That is Occultism mentality.

There is a big difference between being diligent in the job you do and being driven. Being diligent is being led by the Spirit of God; performance is being driven to perform the work of God.

There is a motive behind it in the heart. Work hard for God, but do not be driven. If it doesn't get done today, it just does not get done.

Pr 3:31 Envy thou not the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.

Fear

The Bible tells us to take no thought for tomorrow.

When you take thought for tomorrow, you are projecting fear (failure) into the future. Today was your future yesterday, and tomorrow will be your future fulfilled, and life goes on in a series of 24-hour periods called days.

Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. Matthew 6:34

We are so busy remembering the evil of our past, and projecting it into the future, that it becomes our reality, all day long.
Ro 8:24,25 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence not yet seen. Fear is the substance of things not hoped for, the evidence not yet seen. Fear and faith are equal in this dimension. Each projects into the future. Each demands to be fulfilled.

Fear is Occultism because it preaches a gospel that is not true. Fear and faith are equal in this dimension: both demand to be fulfilled; and they will be fulfilled.

Lu 7:50 And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

Isa 5:13 Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge:

Mt 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Ignorance is a form of knowledge. The Bible tells us there is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof is destruction.

Pr 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Self-Hatred

When you do not love yourself, that is disobedience to God. All disobedience is the highest form of Occultism.

Ro 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

1Jo 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

We set ourselves as a god over God, and our word as a word against the living God.

Mar 12:29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: 30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. 32 And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: 33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

THE RELIGIOUS SPIRIT Henry W. Wright

The Religious spirit is a counterfeit. It presents itself as the real thing, but it is not.

People who have a religious spirit think they know it all. They think they know more than everyone else. They actually have an inferiority complex, but because they overcompensate, it appears as a superiority complex. Religious spirits tend to follow family trees.

People ruled by a religious spirit are often angry people. They tend to be very critical of others and are very proud. They may talk about religion as long as they are in control of the conversation but they get angry if proven to be wrong in their opinions. Some will not attend Bible studies for fear they will hear something they don't like or don't want to believe. A Religious spirit is often quick to speak his opinion, convinced he is right and others are wrong. Humility is very difficult for someone ruled by a religious spirit.

If any man among you seem religious and bridle not his tongue, but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is vain. James 1:26
Religious spirits do not want to be confronted. They do not want to risk being exposed. They tend to be arrogant and want to appear holy. Religious spirits seek respect and admiration from others. They like it when people seem to be afraid of them. It makes them feel superior. The religious spirit likes to rule over others.

Religious spirits do not understand the love of God nor do they know the love of God. Religious spirits give mercy only when it looks good for them to give mercy. Religious spirits are very self-centered so they are motivated to perform with behavior that makes them look good to others. They present themselves with a false image, they look like one thing on the outside but on the inside they are someone very different. The religious spirit is driven by performance to gain favor from men and favor from God.

Self-pity works closely with a religious spirit. It is an antichrist spirit. Self-pity says: nobody likes you or appreciates you. Depression says no one cares. But, self-pity says no one likes you or appreciates you, in spite of who you are. Self-pity is self-idolatry - it's all about me. Self-pity is Rejection dressed up in a religious, pious mode, accepting and justifying any Rejection. It is interesting that not one person has been totally healed of MCS/EI until self-pity was gone.

False piety is part of a religious spirit. What does the word piety mean?

Piety means duty to God, devotion to religious duties and practices, loyalty and devotion to parents, family. A pious act is a statement of belief. An example of false piety at work could be, "Well Pastor, I know my parents abused me, victimized me, and rejected me, but haven't you heard in the Word to honor your father and mother? So I have to submit to this. I'll have to endure it." That's false piety.

Nowhere in the Word does it teach we are to submit to evil. It does say you are to honor your father and mother, but that's based on the condition they're honoring God themselves. You are not required to be ruled by their devils.

The Religious spirit is supported by traditions of men, deceptive philosophies, doctrines of devils, humanism and dogmas. It is common for a religious spirit to use scripture but twist it to suit their purpose or make it easier to accept. A Religious spirit will use scripture out of context to support error.

Who also has made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter kills, but the spirit gives life. 2 Corinthians 3:6

A religious spirit is a Pharisaical spirit which keeps the letter of the law but not the spirit of the law. It does not know the spirit of God behind the law. Pride rules. A religious spirit establishes, protects and defends traditions. A religious spirit is not very good with relationships. A religious spirit offers a form of religion without power, without relationship with God.

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. 2 Timothy 3:5

The Religious spirit often lacks a sense of true identity. They have often been criticized and rejected. They tend to be competitive. Jealousy is often ruling them. People with religious spirits usually lack true relationship with God and work hard to keep all of the rules. Their service for God does not come out of love for God but out of performance to look good and earn favor.

The Religious spirit will do what looks good and will say what sounds good but does not repent and does not take responsibility so nothing changes and frustration results. A religious spirit is often unapproachable. Often does not feel like a safe place - a safe person. A religious spirit is the armor, hiding anger, self-hatred, guilt, competition and fear.

The Religious spirit can be aggressive and obvious or passive and subtle. Either way it tends to have very strong armor to keep it in place. Once recognized, we must confront the anger, self-hatred, fear of failure or whatever manifests to support the religious spirit and remove it. The religious spirit tends to be so deeply entrenched that its programming can be entwined in the personality. Persistent application of Walk Out principles brings complete deliverance. Prayerful study of the Scriptures while determined to seek truth will find peace and freedom.
2 Tim 2:23-26 23But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes. 24And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient; 25in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

Summary: Keep My Commandments

Pro 3: 1-8 1My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: 2for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. 3Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: 4so shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man. 5Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding 6In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. 7Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. 8It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Ex 20:1And God spake all these words, saying, 2I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 3Thou shalt have no other gods before me. 4Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: 5thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; 6and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Matt 22:37-40 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Joh 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

1Jo 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.
1Jo 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
1Jo 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.
1Jo 3:24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.
1Jo 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.
1Jo 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2Jo 1:6 And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.