

# PROTECTION FROM DEFECTION

## Deuteronomy 13

Series: Deuteronomy-  
A Call to Faithfulness  
April 11, 2021

Guidance on resisting the lure of false teaching and false religion

### LET'S GET STARTED

True believers do not abandon Christ, but they can be misled by false teaching. In this message, Moses warns the Israelites to keep on the lookout for temptations to worship other gods. We will discover how to apply that warning in our own lives.

## de·fec·tion

*noun*

**desertion from allegiance, loyalty, duty, or the like; apostasy:**

### THREE SOURCES OF SPIRITUAL DEFECTION AMONG THE ISRAELITES

\_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 1-5).

<sup>1</sup>“If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, <sup>2</sup>and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, ‘Let us follow other gods’ (gods you have not known) ‘and let us worship them,’ . . .”

\_\_\_\_\_ and relatives (vv. 6-11)

<sup>6</sup>“If your very own brother, or your son or daughter, or the wife you love, or your closest friend secretly entices you, saying, ‘Let us go and worship other gods’ (gods that neither you nor your fathers have known, <sup>7</sup>gods of the peoples around you, . . .”

Neighboring \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 12-18).

<sup>12</sup>“If you hear it said about one of the towns the LORD your God is giving you to live in <sup>13</sup>that wicked men have arisen among you and have led the people of their town astray, saying, ‘Let us go and worship other gods’ (gods you have not known), . . .”

## Quotable

*Anything within our lives that turns us away from serving God must be dealt with quickly and severely.*

—John Maxwell

*How seriously do Christians take the worship of false gods? Western culture has established materialism and comfort as deities worthy of worship. Often Christians buy into this lie. How can our lives demonstrate that we worship the one true God alone? What do we need to “burn” today?*

—Charles Swindoll

### If you would like to know more

*God's at War: Defeating the Idols That Battle for Your Heart*, by Kyle Idleman (Zondervan, 2013)

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## AVOIDING SPIRITUAL DEFECTION TODAY

Don't be misled by \_\_\_\_\_.

Deuteronomy 13:3—"you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul."

Galatians 1:8-9—<sup>8</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! <sup>9</sup> As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!

Don't give in to \_\_\_\_\_.

Exodus 23:2—"Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong. . . ."

To go against the dominant thinking of your friends, of most of the people you see very day, is perhaps the most difficult act of heroism you can have. —Theodore H. White

Don't fraternize with \_\_\_\_\_ ideas.

Deuteronomy 13:14-17—<sup>14</sup> "then you must inquire, probe and investigate it thoroughly. And if it is true and it has been proved that this detestable thing has been done among you, <sup>15</sup> you must certainly put to the sword all who live in that town. Destroy it completely, both its people and its livestock. <sup>16</sup> Gather all the plunder of the town into the middle of the public square and completely burn the town and all its plunder as a whole burnt offering to the LORD your God. It is to remain a ruin forever, never to be rebuilt. <sup>17</sup> None of those condemned things shall be found in your hands, ..."

## LET'S LIVE IT

We can put today's truth into practice by learning to recognize Satan's strategies of deception, and by vigilantly watching out for them.

If you would like to speak to any of our Pastors about a spiritual need in your life, here is their contact information:

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Pastor David: Office extension 11, email: dcoleman@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Gary: Office extension 14, email: gfabian@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Andy: Office extension: 18, email: aanderson@crowfieldbaptist.org

You may also discover what the Bible says about how to become a Christian by visiting the following page on our website: <http://www.crowfieldbaptist.org/salvation/>