

(3) Bold promises...the feeling being that if folks are promised enough they will go along a certain path regardless of truth and intelligence.

And while we might enlarge on these, noting some of the devices of Satan from 2 Corinthians 2, etc., it seems better that we immediately give the Divine answer:

b. The Response of God.

(1) Clear instruction...the simple directness of the written word.

(2) Cause and effect, stimulus and response situations that promote for the better of, if defied, prove ruinous or harmful.

(3) Honest promises..based on the Divine will and coupled with obedience and the claiming of the blessing.

The response of God is not conditioned on our feeling or wish but on what will secure His program. But to honor His program certain things are needed:

c. Concepts of the Word.

(1) His people must understand both what it says and what it means.

(2) They must see (and this is the value of predictive prophecy) that He really means what He says and He will bring it to pass.

(3) They 'must recognize that no mere human is able to organize the future for them and that any source not honoring the God of the Bible is not likely to do it well.

(4) They must see that His word is available and practical and has always offered the corrective information necessary.

d. The Lesson: Anyone who substitutes for the Word or follows such a substitute is simply following a course that will not work. The Word teaches it and history illustrates it. We should make it part of our understanding that it cannot be that way. Only God has the intelligence to guide us for tomorrow and there can