

The Attackers: Divine Warnings to Judah through Jeremiah: The Lord's Punishment to Those Who Derisively Pervert His Word, Jer 23:34–36; Citizens of American Are Modern-Day Scoffers of Biblical Warnings; Evangelism: Our Only Offensive Weapon; Avoid Controversies, 2 Tim 2:23–26; 2 Cor 2:11; Lucifer's Active Measures & Our Response

Jeremiah 23:34 - "Then as for the prophet or the priest or the people who say, 'The oracle of the Lord,' I will bring punishment upon that man and his household." (NASB)

18. The legitimate term *massa'* had been so distorted by the disinformation of false prophets and the derision of the people toward Jeremiah's true prophecies, that the Lord rescinded use of the term in His official communiques.
19. The term was being used widely to cast aspersions on the validity of the divine message. Although its use was legitimate in the communication of God's message to Israel through Jeremiah and the other true prophets, its effectiveness had been destroyed.
20. The use of *massa'* was withdrawn by the Holy Spirit after verse 38 which is the last occasion that Jeremiah uses the term.

Jeremiah 23:35 - "Thus will each of you say to his neighbor and to his brother, 'What has the Lord answered?' or 'What has the Lord spoken?'"

v. 36 - "For you will no longer remember the oracle of the Lord, because every man's own word will become the oracle, and you have perverted the words of the living God, the Lord of hosts, our God." (NASB)

21. When a population scoffs at the presentation of truth it must accept as truth the propaganda presented by the purveyors of disinformation. Believing themselves wise, they have become fools.
22. Other Scripture on disinformation includes Psalm 52 and 64 as well as the classic passage on propaganda, brainwashing, active measures, and disinformation in Isaiah 36–37, the encounter between the Assyrian Rabshakeh and King Hezekiah's emissaries.

23. Citizens of the United States have become a latter-day Israel scoffing at the biblical revelation of historical downtrends.
24. There must be a resource that can offer guidance and confidence when loss of thought converges with inevitable historical events.
25. In this regard, we have an obligation to fulfill in the face of the disinformation of the day and those who peddle it.
26. First of all, we must know the truth to the degree that we are able to discern the lie.
27. Our task and objective is not to conjure how to defeat the attackers and deceivers in debate but to guide them to the truth.
28. Our obligation is not to be critical of the people whose thinking is distorted. They are victims of disinformation. We must simply be prepared to defend truth in opposition to the lie.
29. State the truth. Let it lie. There is no need for debate. There is no reason to become self-righteous. A convicted spirit will respond. But if intimidated by an arrogant messenger he will react and reject the message.
30. The Lord gives us instruction on these things in:

2 Timothy 2:23 - Don't have anything to do with foolish and undisciplined controversies, knowing that they give birth to useless battles.

v. 24 - The Lord's bondslave [**pastor-teacher**] must not be belligerent or contentious, but he must keep on being gracious in his mental attitude toward the entire congregation [**unconditional love toward all**], skillful in teaching [**in the power of the Spirit**], persevering in spite of evil.

v. 25 - In the sphere of grace orientation he must exercise disciplinary action toward those who are in opposition to doctrinal teaching; so that perhaps God may give them a change of mind [**orientation, adjustment, & rebound**] for the purpose of achieving full knowledge of the truth.

2 Timothy 2:26 - And that they should come to their senses and be delivered from the devil's trap [**the cosmic systems**], having been held captive by him with reference to his plan to be like the Most High. (EXT)

2 Corinthians 2:11 - Satan should not get an advantage over us for we are not ignorant of his strategies. (EXT)

31. Lucifer's strategies are operational today in twenty-first-century America under the term "active measures." Therefore, we must make ourselves prepared through inculcation of truth to identify and isolate the propaganda that is directed specifically at believers in Jesus Christ.