



## [Deuteronomy 13:1-5](#)

(1) "If a prophet rises among you, or a dreamer of dreams, and gives you a sign or a wonder, (2) And the sign or the wonder which he foretold to you comes to pass, saying, 'Let us go after other gods, which you have not known, and let us serve them,' (3) You shall not hearken to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God *is* testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. (4) You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments, and obey His voice, and you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him. (5) And that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death because he has spoken to turn *you* against the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slaves, to thrust you out of the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall put the evil away from the midst of you.

*A Faithful Version*

What is coming from the prophet's mouth? Something false. Who is this prophet speaking for, what supernatural spirit? It is not the [spirit of God](#), but a demon speaking through a human being, inspiring and motivating him. [God](#) permits it and expects His people to put that person to the test. God expects us to be able to discern the spirit that is motivating the speaker. The test is to see whether we will remain loyal to God—loyal in terms of keeping His commandments.

Thus, the listener better have a good working knowledge of God, which returns us to [II Corinthians 10:5](#), where Paul warns that reasonings will exalt themselves against the knowledge of God. This clarifies the devices that [Satan](#) will use to turn us aside. This also underlines our need to be able to thwart those devices. We need to have a good working knowledge of God—not things about God so much, but the knowledge of God the Person, the Being with whom we have a relationship.

Also, Deuteronomy 13 confirms that some of these [false prophets](#) will be able to do [miracles](#), which Paul confirms in II Thessalonians 2, and John confirms in Revelation

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Deuteronomy 13:1-5 (<http://www.theberean.org>)  
11. What is in the New Testament is built upon what God has already shown in the Old Testament—that Satan's *modus operandi* will be carried through from one covenant to the other. We have to understand that such signs—the ability to do miracles—are not of themselves indications of authority from God. They must be combined with teaching that agrees with God's already revealed will.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

**To learn more, see:**

[Satan \(Part 2\)](#)



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