

# SPIRITUALISM

TRIED BY THE WORD OF GOD.

BEING AN

## EXPOSURE

OF THIS

## SATANICAL DELUSION

OF THE

## INFERNAL SEDUCER

### OF SOULS.

—  
BY

JOHN BUNYAN McCURE.

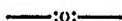
—  
LONDON :

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY ROBERT BANKS,  
30, LUDGATE HILL, E.C.

AND SOLD AT THE AUTHOR'S RESIDENCE,  
CONRAD VILLA, WINDSOR ROAD, DENMARK HILL, CAMBERWELL.

—  
PRICE TWO-PENCE.

## TO THE READER.



THE object of the following pages is to take up the stumbling-block thrown in the pathway of revealed truth by reasonings and solutions the *most false* and delusive, although clothed in the garb of scientific phraseology. By some SPIRITUALISM and CLAIRVOYANCY is accounted for in the same way as "table-turning," &c., from natural causes; and others that the "mediums" have access to the spirit world of the departed. I trust that the following pages will be sufficient to prove that they are under the delusions of the devil, and those who are connected with them are deceiving and being deceived.

During thousands of miles travelling in this and other lands, I have been grieved in finding so many of whom I have *hoped better things* turned aside from the simplicity of the Word of God. Before I left the colonies, a circumstance took place in Geelong, which confirmed me as to the satanical nature of Spiritualism. The facts of the case were these:—A person whom I had known for years, who had been engaged in preaching the Gospel, lost a child by death, which very much distressed his mind. One night, while walking up and down near his house, a figure passed by him, touching him on his right side. It was that of a little child, who had on a frock like the one his child used to wear, and immediately vanished out of sight.

The next day, while at the house of Mr. —, a loud knocking was heard on the wall of the room behind where he was sitting. After this a meeting of Spiritualists took place in Geelong, in the house of a very

respectable family; the "medium" on the occasion was the daughter of the gentleman of the house. A number of persons were present; the person who had lost his child was present also. The lady sat at the table, holding in her hand a strong pencil over a sheet of writing-paper. Presently her hand shook violently by some unseen power; she wrote in a very rapid manner. I will only relate two cases. She said, "This is a communication from a damned spirit. Mr. C—, late of Geelong, now of Ballaratt, has just committed suicide by blowing out his brains." This fact was confirmed next morning in the newspapers.

The person who had lost his child asked the "medium" if she could obtain an interview with the spirit of his departed child. After a while her hand was seized by the same mysterious influence, and she wrote on the paper. The spirit, through the "medium," addressed the father as follows:—"It was I, papa, who passed you in S— street, on Monday night, and it was I who knocked on the wall of Mr. —'s house when you were there on Tuesday. I will commune with you myself on Monday at your own house."

According to promise the spirit did so, and made some important communications respecting departed relatives who were in heaven. Then the spirit promised to teach him drawing, that he might have an insight into Paradise. Under this influence he executed an immense number of unnatural productions, which he was not able to do apart from this influence. I have been informed by a gentleman who was an eye-witness of all the facts of the case, that he is carried away by the delusions. That a supernatural influence producing what I have related, and which is being performed daily in this country, are facts that cannot be denied.

The question is as to the nature of that influence; have these people access to the spirit world? If they have, then by the influence of departed spirits are these manifestations wrought? If not, then **IT MUST BE BY**

SATAN. Who could believe for one moment that the lost spirit of him who blew out his brains could in such an awful moment visit the drawing-room in Geelong, and influence the young lady to write on the paper of the self-murder just committed? That communication was not from that lost spirit, but from the devil, under whose influence the poor man (whom I had known for years) put an end to his life.

Satan knew that the Spiritualists were assembled together, and to confirm them in their delusions, he communicated this fact, which he knew would be reported next day in the newspapers, which it was. Satan likewise knew the depressed state of mind of him who had lost his child, and upon that enfeebled mind he had already worked, in order to captivate and ensnare him. "CAN YOU OBTAIN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE SPIRIT OF MY DEPARTED CHILD? The communication was made through the "medium" to the father. By what spirit? Most certainly not that of the departed child, but by the evil spirit, that is full of subtlety, who is the liar from the beginning, were these manifestations produced.

That Clairvoyancy is connected with Spiritualism I have no doubt. One of the cleverest Clairvoyants in Sydney made no secret of the fact, but acknowledged that her wonderful knowledge and power were from satanical agency.

There are Clairvoyants in this country, who have given sufficient proof of their connection with Spiritualism. One celebrated Clairvoyant, while in the mesmeric sleep, was asked, "Can you tell me how Mr. — is?" at the same time mentioning the address. In a few moments she replied, "I have found the house; the shutters are closed." By her spirit she entered the house, while her body was several miles away, went into one of the rooms, and exclaimed, "Here is a corpse! Mr. — is dead; he died at such a time, and of such a disease," all of which statements on the following day were found to be correct.

Many other such instances might be produced. By what spirit is this knowledge obtained? Not by the "Holy" God, the Eternal Spirit, but by the great deceiving and seducing spirits that are among all the nations of the earth, as recorded in Job i. 6, 7. "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan (the adversary) came also among them (in the midst of them). And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it."

If the reader has been led astray by the *evil example of those* who have fallen a prey to those satanical delusions, I intreat him to read the following pages, wherein he will find SPIRITUALISM and CLAIRVOYANCY are not to be accounted for in any other way than God's Word has determined. "HOW LONG HALT YE BETWEEN TWO OPINIONS? IF THE LORD BE GOD, FOLLOW HIM; BUT IF BAAL, THEN FOLLOW HIM." (1 Kings xviii. 21.)

May the Lord bless this testimony of truth, and recover misguided ones out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will, is the most sincere desire and prayer of your soul's well-wisher,

JOHN BUNYAN McCURE.

*Conrad Villa, Windsor-road, Denmark-hill,  
Camberwell, August, 1871.*

## SPIRITUALISM

### TRIED BY THE WORD OF GOD.

---

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly that in the latter times, some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." 1 Tim. iv. 1.

**T**HE portentous character of the times are enough to fill us with alarm, for evil men and seducers are waxing worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived; and many whom we least expected are carried away by the delusion of the devil.

To say nothing of ROMANISM, that has been described as the masterpiece of hell, and RITUALISM, which is Popery in another name; the unsightly progeny of the "Father of lies," preparing the way for a wide spread RELIGIOUS INFIDELITY; in which we see men are given up to believe a "LIE." Strong delusion is the fearful consequence: by the deceivableness of unrighteousness, thousands are ensnared by RATIONALISM and MATERIALISM of every form.

If Satan, who seeks to devour whom he *may*, cannot captivate by one delusion, he will try another.

The NON-ETERNITY of PUNISHMENT, a Satanic delusion, has caused many to stumble and fall.

SPIRITUALISM, in which, I believe, is included CLAIRVOYANCY, are other satanic delusions, by which thousands are now being led captive by the devil, to draw off the mind from God, to trust in something else, is the great object of the infernal seducer of souls.

These devices of the enemy have been eminently successful in Australia, America, and now in England.

TO DO WITHOUT GOD! AND YE SHALL BE AS GOD! was the archdeceivers first temptation.

To foster a love for unlawful knowledge of futurity; to be as wise as God to whom secret things belong—that those secret things may belong to them also, and mortal man be as

wise as his Maker ; and at last, lifted up with pride, he fall into the condemnation of the devil. " For thou hast said in thine heart : I will ascend into heaven ; I will exalt my throne above the stars of God : I will sit, also, upon the mount of the congregations, in the sides of the north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds : I will be like the most high." Isa. xiv. 13, 14. Many who have been pillars in the temple of God, have been brought down, and overthrown by THIS sin of making flesh their arm, and ceasing to trust in the Lord. The great object of the enemy is to seduce the people of God from the simplicity of the Gospel ; " But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve by his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ." 2 Cor. xi. 3. And instead of " calling upon God in the day of trouble, go to the "*Spirit World*," or call upon a "*Clairvoyant* !" This was the crowning act of Saul's rebellion against God, that he consulted a " WOMAN WHO HAD A FAMILIAR SPIRIT !" It was the great sin of the children of Israel, " who went a whoring with their own inventions : " For my people have committed two evils ; they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters ; and have hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

Against the Church at "Thyatira" the Lord said : " I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that WOMAN JEZEBEL, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce my servants to commit fornication," &c.

Much has been said, and great and learned discussions have been carried on by learned men to determine the question, whether the ancient and modern diviners merely pretended to the power they exercised, or were actually assisted by demoniacal agency. The WORD OF GOD DECLARES THAT IT IS OF the devil ! Almost all the great fathers of the Primitive Church embraced that opinion.

But, now, in these latter times, many maintain that both SPIRITUALISM and CLAIRVOYANCY are systems of imposture, and ridicule those who practice them, as utterly incapable of accomplishing anything beyond the ordinary power of man.

Nothing less than satanic agency is at all sufficient to account for these delusions, because they so clearly resemble—if they are not absolutely identical with—the lying wonders pre-

dicted in the Word of God, that shall be characteristic of the last days: "And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a *lie*." 2 Thess. ii. 11. The great importance of the subject lies in determining the satanical reality of the fact, and the spiritual consequences which have followed them.

Our dangerous and deceitful enemy cares not what scientific theories are introduced as explanatory of his workings; if HE is not suspected to be present; he never wants to be seen with his horns and hoofs, in his true devil character: but, "transformed into an angel of light."

Hence, the strenuous efforts to connect truth and error; the visible and invisible; and so mingle them, that all things seem brought within the range of legitimate enquiry; and the world of matter and spirit to be alike subjected to the purposes and control of proud and fallen man.

One of the most striking features of the present moment is, the attempt to establish, and justify, a power on the part of man, of DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH THE SPIRIT WORLD; AND TO DIVEST IT OF THE GUILT AND COLLUSION WITH THE DEVIL, with which it must be regarded; being condemned by the fearful threatenings and awful penalties which God has attached to it.

By this delusion of the enemy man is now striving to take his PRESENT and his HEREAFTER into his own hands: to penetrate every mystery of his being: to determine the extent of his responsibility in this world, and in the world to come: to become a REVELATION to himself, AND TO BECOME INDEPENDENT OF GOD.

This is the awful tendency both of SPIRITUALISM and CLAIRVOYANCY. However harmless and unimportant they may appear, there is ample evidence to prove, that instrumentally, these delusions are a means of vast spiritual evil.

The true nature and origin of modern spiritualism must no longer be a question of doubt; IT IS NOT FROM HEAVEN, but FROM HELL: therefore must be *exposed*, and *avoided*: "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the *unclean thing*; and I will receive you." 2 Cor. vi. 7. Is it not because God's Word is dishonoured that Satan's devices are so successful?

Let us go to the law, and to the testimony — God's Word



— that teaches that satanic agency concurs in every act of deliberate sin. Satan is the prompter of treachery: "*the Father of Lies.*" "And there came forth a spirit, and stood before the Lord, and said, I will persuade him. And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a *lying* spirit in the mouths of his prophets." 1 Kings xxii. 21, 22. And thus Ahab was seduced, and ruined by the lying spirit of the devil in his prophets.

There is NO FORM of spiritual delusion that may not be attributed to satanic influence: to attribute it to the Spirit of God—or, God the Spirit—would be blasphemy. The people of God are especially warned that they "Wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

Scripture testimony and experience prove that he has always been, the **AUTHOR OF EVERYTHING FALSE AND DECEPTIVE.**

The Magicians of Egypt were permitted to perform miracles to invalidate the authority of Moses: we must believe, and regard it as an evidence of the power and influence which the performer of those miracles is still enabled to exert upon the minds of very many. "Then Pharaoh also called the wise men, and the sorcerers; now the Magicians of Egypt, they also, did in like manner with their enchantments." Ex. vii. 11. That Satan is sometimes invested with power over the elements is clearly proved by the history of Job: "And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy (hand) power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand: so Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord." "The fire of God is fallen from heaven [a great fire], and hath burnt up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them. And behold there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house; and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead." Job i. 12, 16, 19. That he is also an agent in the infliction of diseases and infirmities, is also revealed; and that his emissaries can enter into the bodies of men, and animals, and use their organization as instruments for their own purposes, **GIVING TO IT IMPULSES, POWERS, AND UTTERANCES, OF WHICH IT IS NOT NATURALLY CAPABLE.** "Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto

the woman, yea, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil." Gen. iii. 1, 4, 5. "So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown." Job ii. 7. "There met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? Art thou come to torment us before our time? So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go into the herd of swine: And he said unto them, Go." Matt. viii. 28—32. To doubt this we must reject revelation, and facts that we have *now in our midst*.

Satan accomplishes a vast amount of his designs, by DECEPTIONS and ILLUSIONS, PRACTISED UPON THE MINDS AND SENSES. There cannot be a doubt but that under certain circumstances—impossible to be defined—the devil has been, and will yet be enabled to manifest his powers in a PHYSICAL, or miraculous manner, pertaining to the science of healing.

As the Sorcerer, the false prophet Bar-jesus, sought to turn away the deputy from the faith, who desired to hear the Word of God; so the lying spirits that are now in both men and women, are trying to overthrow the faith of some. "Paul, filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes upon him, and said, O full of all subtlety, and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, Wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?" Acts xiii. 5—10. "And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsayings. But Paul being grieved, turned, and said to the SPIRIT; I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her; and he came out the same hour." Acts xvi. 16—18.

When Saul saw the hosts of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled. "And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord *answered him not*; neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by Prophets. Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her." His servants found him the Witch.

of Endor; to whom Saul went at night and said unto her: "I pray thee divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee." 1 Sam. xxviii. 5—8. But for one awful fact, he needed not to have called in for his help such a satanic agency, as a woman with a familiar spirit: viz., "God is departed from me, and answereth me no more," &c.

For Christians to patronize, encourage, and support such a system of DELUSION, is most dishonouring to God, and a direct violation of his most holy word: "*Neither give place to the devil.*" "*Abstain from all appearance of evil.*" Who could ask the Lord's blessing upon such means? A woman with a familiar spirit! which is the spirit of the devil. It cannot be the Spirit of God. *It must be one or the other. It is against the revealed will of God:* THEREFORE AGAINST GOD.

"And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep and that mutter: Should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead?" Isa. viii. 19. "Regard not them that have familiar spirits; neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: *I am the Lord your God.*" Lev. xix. 31. "And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them; I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among the people." Lev. xx. 6. "A man, also, or woman that hath a familiar spirit; or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood shall be upon them." Lev. ii. 27. "Or that useth divination; or an observer of times; or an enchanter; or a witch; or a charmer; or a consulter with familiar spirits; or a wizard; or a necromancer, (one that inquires of the dead, or that seeks instruction from them): for all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord," &c. Deut. xviii. 11, 12. "And the Spirit of Egypt shall fail in the midst thereof: and I will destroy the counsel thereof: and they shall seek to the idols, and to the charmers, and to them that have familiar spirits, and to wizards." Isa. xix. 3.

Thus it may be said unto all who consult with the "SPIRIT WORLD," or "CLAIRVOYANCY." As Elijah said unto the messengers of the King of Samaria: "Say unto them, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron?" 2 Kings i. 3. Is

Jehovah's mercy clean gone for ever? And will he be favourable no more? Doth his promise fail for evermore? Hath God forgotten to be gracious? Hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? That his arm is shortened, and no longer able to save. Therefore it is necessary to seek help of **SUCH AS HAVE FAMILIAR SPIRITS** — of the God of this world, who opposeth, and exalteth himself above, all that is called God, or that is worshipped? No, No, Blessed be God, his arm is not shortened; his covenant is not broken; and his faithfulness, he has never suffered it to fail, but has established it for ever. Then away, away with the **REFUGES of LIES**, and the **PHYSICIANS OF NO VALUE**: for that is the real character of all false systems, and delusions, both of men and devils.

For the sake of our children, and those who are not established in the truth, should every possible means be used to resist these Satanic delusions, by God's Word: "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal; but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strong holds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God; and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." 2 Cor. x. 4, 5.

Those who have enquired into this matter, have no doubt but that certain supernatural phenomena are produced, and that by the agency of the evil spirit, which I think is clearly shewn by the Word of God. **SPIRITUALISM** is no new thing: it has been almost from the beginning: and God has pronounced his solemn curse upon it, as may be seen in the Scriptures quoted.

Many persons who are totally ignorant of the subject, having never enquired into it, believe that there is nothing about it, but what can be produced by Legerdemain and Mechanical appliances: but, in this they are deceived, and are giving place to the enemy to carry on his deception without opposition.

I trust that under the blessing of God my humble endeavour to draw the veil of secrecy in relation to this **DELUSION** will be the means of delivering out of the snares of Satan those who are led astray from the path of truth and righteousness.

It is our unspeakable mercy, however great Satan's power

and influence may be upon human affairs, HE is neither OMNISCIENT, OMNIPOTENT, nor OMNIPRESENT!! However IMPLACABLE his opposition to God, and his people, his capability of evil cannot surpass those limits, which the ALMIGHTY RULER of the universe has imposed. His is therefore a PERMITTED but a RESTRICTED power.

“HITHERTO SHALT THOU COME, BUT NO FURTHER: AND HERE SHALL THY PROUD WAVES BE STAYED?” Job xxxviii. 11.

With this limit, the Lord is pleased to make use of Satan, to try and prove his people, and make manifest those who are not the Lord's. HE IS THE LYING SPIRIT IN THE MOUTH OF ALL FALSE PROPHETS, AND SEDUCERS. He suggested to Judas to betray his Lord and Master: “*Then entered Satan into Judas,*” &c., Luke xxii. 3. And Ananias and Sapphira: “*Why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost.*” Acts v. 3. He goes about to tempt and to destroy whom he may. He is an enemy to God and man, and works by every possible means to rob God of his glory, and men of their souls.

He is an IMPLACABLE ENEMY, and described in the Word of God by titles and names descriptive of his real character.

Accuser of our brethren. Rev. xii. 10.

Adversary. 1 Pet. v. 8.

Angel of the Bottomless Pit. Rev. ix. 11.

Apollyon. Rev. ix. 11.

Beelzebub. Matt. xii. 24.

Belial. 2 Cor. vi. 15.

Crooked Serpent. Isa. xxvii. 1.

Dragon. Isa. xxvii. 1. Rev. xx. 2.

Enemy. Matt. xiii. 39.

Evil Spirit. 1 Sam. xvi. 14.

Father of Lies. John viii. 44.

Great Red Dragon. Rev. xii. 3.

Leviathan. Isa. xxvii. 1.

Liar. John viii. 44.

Lying Spirit. 1 Kings xxii. 22.

Murderer. John viii. 44.

Old Serpent. Rev. xii. 9.

Power of Darkness. Col. i. 13.

Prince of this World. John xiv. 30.

Prince of Devils. Matt. xii. 24.

Prince of the Power of the Air. Eph. ii. 2.

Ruler of the Darkness of this world. Eph. vi. 12.

Satan. Job i. 6.

Spirit that works in the children of disobedience.

Tempter. Matt. iv. 3.

The God of this World. 2 Cor. iv. 4.

Unclean Spirit. Matt. xii. 43.

Wicked One. Matt. xiii. 19, 38.

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might; put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day: and having done all, to stand. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.” Eph. vi. 10, 11, 13, 16. “Casting all your care upon him, (God,) who careth for you — Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he MAY devour.”

“LOOK UNTO ME,  
AND BE YE SAVED, ALL THE  
ENDS OF THE EARTH,  
FOR I AM GOD,  
AND THERE IS NONE ELSE.”

ISAIAH xlv. 22.