



Jacob jostled for position with Esau even while he was in the womb. His name is translated as “he deceives”. It carries the idea of “Supplanting” - *to take the place of (another), as through force, scheming, strategy, or the like*. When deceivers are in a dilemma they look for the easy way out. They constantly place themselves above others. Their well-being is much more important than anyone else’s. Tonight, from the life of Jacob, we will see three common Dilemmas that Deceivers must face. A dilemma is a situation where a choice is required. Deceptive people always choose self. I want us to meditate upon the fact that **Deceivers are loyal to themselves; you must choose to be loyal to the Sovereign God.**

### I. Deceivers face a Dilemma with their Character.

#### A. Deceivers are conforming in their character. (Gen. 27:6-10)

Jacob was a weak and pliable man. His character conformed into whatever his influences were. Deceptive people do not have the strength of character to truly stand up for what is really right. Their character conforms to whatever is easiest and best for them.

#### B. Deceivers are committed to their comfort. (Gen. 27:11-14; 27:19)

Jacob did not object to the deceptive act itself, but his only concern was for the consequences.

### C. Deceivers are calloused in their conscience.

He was given multiple opportunities to confess his sin. He didn't he boldly proceeds with his lies!

### II. Deceivers face a Dilemma with their Consequences.

#### A. Deceivers are deceived.

1. Laban deceived Jacob. (Chapter 29)
2. Jacob's sons deceived him. (Chapter 37)

#### B. Deceivers are distrusting.

### III. Deceivers face a Dilemma in their Choices. (Gen. 28)

#### A. Deceivers can maintain their loyalty to self.

#### B. Deceivers can transfer their loyalty to the Sovereign God.

When faced with a temptation to deceive we are faced with some important decisions to make. We must consider the uprightness of our character, we must consider the consequences, and we must consider where our loyalty stands- ourselves or to the God who created us.

**Psalm 32:2** Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.

**Psalm 101:7** He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.

**Psalm 120:2** Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue.