

The background of the book cover is a complex collage. At the top left, there's a blue and white graphic of a hand with binary code (0s and 1s) around it. The top right features a red and orange map of the United States. In the center, a black silhouette of a fighter jet is shown in flight. The bottom left shows a golden, classical-style statue of a horse and rider. The bottom right depicts two soldiers in silhouette, one aiming a rifle, against a bright orange and yellow background. The overall color palette is dominated by reds, oranges, and yellows, with accents of blue and black.

FOREWORD BY DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

COL. DAVID J. GIAMMONA

★ ★ ★ ★

TROY ANDERSON

THE MILITARY GUIDE TO DISARMING DECEPTION

BATTLEFIELD TACTICS TO EXPOSE THE ENEMY'S LIES
AND TRIUMPH IN TRUTH

THE MILITARY GUIDE TO DISARMING DECEPTION

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AND TRIUMPH IN TRUTH



COL. DAVID J. GIAMMONA
AND TROY ANDERSON



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To my beautiful wife, Esther, my partner in life for the past forty-two years. Your inspiration, late-night talks and dedication to duty have inspired and supported me all these years, and I look forward to more to come. Also, to my three awesome children, Micah, Catarina and Melissa, and their God-given superb spouses, Andrea, Andrew and Luis, and now seven wonderful grandchildren. I am truly blessed.

—David

To my beautiful and warm-hearted wife, Irene, whose encouragement, prayers and excellent work creating the website, videos and graphics for Battle Ready Ministries has been a continual source of inspiration for our readers, ministry followers and board of advisors. I also dedicate this book to our charming and amazing daughters, Marlee and Ashley. The Lord is beyond good and “is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us” (Ephesians 3:20).

—Troy

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Foreword

It is no secret that deception today is running rampant throughout the earth.

When Jesus Christ’s disciples asked Him two thousand years ago about “the sign of your coming and of the end of the age,” He told them, “Watch out that no one deceives you” (Matthew 24:3–4).

I am convinced that *The Military Guide to Disarming Deception* by Colonel David Giammona and Pulitzer Prize–nominated investigative journalist Troy Anderson will help you and your family not only stand firm against the lies of the enemy in the last days, but also discern and combat the propaganda, disinformation and deceptive ideologies that have infiltrated the Church and society.

This is a life-changing, hard-hitting and deeply insightful book that will help you rise in confident biblical assurance, applying military and spiritual intelligence disciplines to your life, to become an on-fire disciple of Christ and soldier in the army of the Lord.

Today the forces of darkness are amassing in battle array. Satan and his hordes know their time is short; and as the last

days approach, they are pulling out all the stops, not just to deceive the world but to bring deception to the Church. They are launching an all-out attack against the Word of God and the Church.

Never in history has there been so critical a time for us to understand God's Word and to prepare ourselves and our loved ones for the war against the people of God.

I am concerned that many will be swept away by the deception and lies the enemy is using to set the global stage for the Antichrist, the false prophet and the mark of the Beast economic system.

As the New World Order approaches, it is time for a new paradigm as God prepares us for spiritual battle in the end times. This book is one of the key tools God is using to keep us informed, ready and triumphant. There are no better experts to show us the way than Giammona and Anderson. Their riveting book will provide you with the biblical keys to engage the enemy with the weapons of our warfare (see 2 Corinthians 10:4), helping you walk in the unstoppable and miraculous power and protection of the Holy Spirit in an age of deceit and confusion.

As I read through the book, I was struck by how the military prepares its forces for the deceptive tactics of its enemies. It is no different for the Church. We need to be armed to fight our spiritual enemies and the extreme propaganda and other deceptions now upon us. This book gives you insights, knowledge and practical exercises at the end of every chapter that you and your family will need to disarm deception and lawlessness.

This book is a powerful follow-on to the national bestseller by Giammona and Anderson—*The Military Guide to Armageddon: Battle-Tested Strategies to Prepare Your Life and Soul for the End Times*. Dramatic and cataclysmic events are unfolding on planet earth in these end times.

Make no mistake about it. Because we are at war with powerful forces of darkness, we no longer have the luxury to sit back and watch from the sidelines. Preachers need to reassess their worldview and messages to call their followers to action. Believers need to reevaluate their lives in light of eternity and the impact they must have on this lost and dying world.

Read this book to be changed, inspired, stimulated and, most of all, challenged. If you are like me, you will not want to put it down before absorbing every word.

As plagues, pestilences, wars and rumors of war run throughout this world, we need new direction, fresh ideas, inspired words and Holy Spirit focus to live a life directed by Jesus Himself. Here you will find how to use the weapons of our warfare to prepare for battle and to understand the fog of war. There is even a chapter called “Night-Vision Goggles” that will help you detect and overcome the deception all around us.

You will be captivated by numerous examples of the warrior ethos in Bible characters such as David, Moses, Elijah, Daniel and others. Scripture references abound, giving us the foundation on which to build the army of the Lord—or, as I say, *Adonai’s* army.

I was fascinated to read an observation in the introduction that, in the military, everyone has heard a thousand times: Complacency can kill you. We need to prepare for the unexpected. Deception will keep us complacent and actually ensure our demise if we are negligent in our approach to life. Understanding the enemy’s deceptive strategies is the key to gaining wisdom and defeating the devil. Giammona and Anderson show us with real-life and personal inspirational stories, as well as written guidelines, how to become battle ready.

In recent years the Church has been dedicated to making converts, but not disciples trained to avoid the pitfalls of deception and ready for spiritual combat.

Foreword

This book is the training manual for the coming revival and revolution of the Church. Many today are talking of revival. My concern is what happens after the revival ends. This book answers the question “Then what?”

Join us in the worldwide revolution of the Church that, in these end times, will fight the powers of darkness, win the many and enlist disciples as warriors for our Messiah.

Dr. Robert Jeffress, senior pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas; adjunct professor, Dallas Theological Seminary; television host, *Pathway to Victory*

Preface

Did God Really Say?

“Did God really say?” is the refrain echoed throughout the centuries of humankind’s war with the forces of darkness. That question—originally posed by Satan to Eve in the Garden of Eden (see Genesis 3:1), resulting in the Fall of humankind—is the mantra of a world now hurtling toward the end at a breathtaking pace.

Doubting God’s Word and His very existence is the norm in our culture, and that drumbeat will continue and grow until Jesus Christ returns and extinguishes deception and replaces it with the truth of His Kingdom.

The purpose of this book is to train people of all ages to fight and overcome deception by standing firm in their faith, and then to advance against the gates of hell (see Matthew 16:18). We want to rightly navigate the passageways of this world fraught with deception so we will end up in that Kingdom that will never end. And we want no one to perish because they were deceived by our culture, this world and this present darkness.

Military leaders throughout history have used the strategy of deception to win wars. It is no different today. In his end-times fight leading the forces of darkness, Satan employs advanced tactics in the realm of deception “to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Matthew 24:24).

In this book, the sequel to our national bestseller *The Military Guide to Armageddon*, we will show you and your family how to apply military and spiritual intelligence principles in everyday life to become the soldiers of God you were destined to be.

Acknowledgments

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I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge all who have served, are serving and will serve in our magnificent United States armed forces around the world, with whom I have had the privilege to serve alongside through many dangers, toils and snares.

We would further like to thank those who graciously took time to do interviews for the book, including Rabbi Jonathan Bernis, Dr. Robert Jeffress, Pastor Jimmy Evans, Reverend Jessip, Colonel Brzezinski, Dr. Paul McGuire, Rabbi Jonathan Cahn,

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I (Troy) would like to thank our Bible study group, led by David and Esther, who have prayed for the Lord's guidance and blessing over this project and others for a decade; our Film Prayer Warriors team, who prayed for spiritual covering over *The Military Guide to Disarming Deception*; and Jerry Moses, for his wisdom, prayers and belief in this project.

We would also like to thank our incredible literary agent, Bryan Norman, president of Alive Literary Agency, for his encouragement and belief in this series of books.

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Finally, we would like to thank everyone who endorsed the book or was a part of the launch teams to help us get the word out to readers. May the Holy Spirit use this book to disarm the deception increasingly abroad in our world, as the end draws nearer.

PART 1

SPIRITUAL DECEPTION

1

Complacency Can Kill You

“Watch out that no one deceives you.”

MATTHEW 24:4

SUMMER 1991

**KHOBAR TOWERS, BUILDING 131, DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA
EARLY MORNING**

“Sir, I am concerned about the safety and welfare of our troops in this location,” I told my commander.

“What do you mean, Chaplain?”

“I mean that this building that houses our troops is so close to the road and vulnerable to enemy attack,” I answered.

That commander probably thought, *Hey, what do you know? You’re just a chaplain, and I’m a hardened infantry soldier with years of experience.*

He replied, “Nonsense, Chaplain. We’ve spent a lot of time hardening this site and have taken all necessary precautions.”

“Very well, sir,” I replied.

But I was not convinced.

SUMMER 1996

It shook me to my core. In Rose Barracks, Germany, I could not believe what I was reading, yet I had predicted the outcome five years before: Nineteen airmen had died and more than four hundred U.S. and international military members and civilians had been injured in the terrorist attack at Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, on June 25, 1996.

The front of Building 131 was blown off, exposing eight stories of rooms after terrorists detonated a fuel truck parked nearby. Khobar Towers had been attacked by a truck bomb, and many U.S. Air Force 4404th Wing personnel were wounded and killed in the very place I had stood.

Even military commanders can get lulled into complacency—defined as self-satisfaction, especially when accompanied by unawareness of actual dangers or deficiencies—when everything is going well. Our enemies, however, whether spiritual or physical, never rest. Encouraging complacency is one of the major components of deception.

Deception has played a major role in history, especially in the military. When I attended the U.S. Army War College, Chinese general, writer and philosopher Sun Tzu was referred to frequently as one of the great architects of modern warfare. One of his topics was military deception. Sun Tzu's greatest work, *The Art of War*, lays out the formula for success in war.

Deception, in Sun Tzu's world, is a priority military tactic, meaning that it was at the top of his list of important methods of winning battles. His famous quote on the subject sums it up nicely: "All warfare is based on deception."¹

Often in war, the enemy tries to lull his opponent into complacency. This is accomplished through patience and perseverance. The Taliban waited for years, for example, until the United States wanted nothing more than to end the twenty-year war in Afghanistan. In 2021 America pulled out too quickly,

leaving behind tons of equipment and Afghan National Army personnel. The results were catastrophic.

The Coming of the Master Deceiver

The Bible tells us that the end times will be marked by false prophets claiming they are Christ, spreading deception. But a global dictator is coming, a master deceiver and a patient diplomat with incredible negotiating skills—a figure known as the Antichrist, empowered by the devil, “a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44)—who will preside over the deaths of half to two-thirds or more of the world’s population during the seven-year Tribulation prior to the return of Jesus Christ.

The world will look to him to solve incredibly complex economic, political and military problems. He will use mesmerizing oratorical and other skills to lull the world into believing that it will enjoy peace and prosperity under his rule. He will be a smooth operator who wins the masses with his cunning, skill and miracle-working powers.

The Bible warns that the Antichrist will deceive people, who will believe “the lie.” The apostle Paul talks about this “lie”: God will send “a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie” (2 Thessalonians 2:11). The lie they will believe is the claim of this false messiah, the Antichrist. And this lie goes back to the Garden of Eden when Satan said to Adam and Eve, “Did God really say?” Lucifer questioned and then contradicted what God had told them. Genesis 3:1–5 tells the story:

The serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch

SPIRITUAL DECEPTION

it, or you will die.” “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Greg Laurie, senior pastor of the fifteen-thousand-member Harvest Christian Fellowship in Riverside, California, and founder of Harvest Crusades and Harvest America, explains how Bible-believing, well-taught Christians will avoid believing the lie in the end times:

The only way we’re going to recognize an error is by knowing the truth. I was speaking with a friend who worked for the police department in the counterfeit division, and he told me that they never handle counterfeit money. They only handle real currency, so when they touch the counterfeit, they immediately know.

It’s a temptation not to believe the Word of God as a source of authority, but to believe something else in its place. That’s the “lie.” We don’t want that to happen to us. We need to think biblically; we need to live biblically. I think when you’re immersed in Scripture, you have everything you need. You have the moral compass you need. You have the clear sense of right and wrong. Everything you need to know about God is found in the Bible. And I think everything you need to know about life is also found in the Bible.²

In His first act of public ministry, which He intended as a sign to Israel that He was the Messiah, Jesus defied the religious leaders of His day, chastising them for commercializing and trivializing the house of God. After He overturned the tables of the money changers and drove them out of the Temple, saying they had turned “My Father’s house” into a “house of merchandise” (John 2:16 NKJV), the gospel writer pointed out the innate sinful nature of humankind:

When He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

John 2:23–25 NKJV

Jesus' response to deception and the human condition lay at the core of His relationship to the crowds that followed Him.

Standing Firm against Lies and Deception

Today we must stand firm against the lies and deception of the enemy with the unshakable knowledge of Jesus and the truth of the Gospel. To begin with, we must learn what deception is, what snares the enemy is laying for us and how we can overcome "the trap of the devil" (2 Timothy 2:26).

In every battle in every war in history, leaders and their followers prepared for war by studying the schemes, plans and strategies of the enemy, to try to be victorious. It is the same for followers of Jesus.

Deception has been perpetrated since the beginning of time, but the Bible indicates that deception will increase until Christ comes:

The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

2 Thessalonians 2:9–12

SPIRITUAL DECEPTION

When Jesus told His disciples about the coming destruction of the Temple, He also warned them, and us, against deception:

“Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.” . . . “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you.”

Matthew 24:2–4

His prediction must have thrown them into a tailspin. “What do You mean that these magnificent buildings will be destroyed? That’s not possible. We’ve been visiting this magnificent Temple all our lives. We are comfortable here. Things cannot be as bad as You say.”

Do not get complacent! In the military everyone has heard it a thousand times: “Complacency can kill you.” Instead, we need to prepare for the inevitable. The day-to-day grind of everyday events, the onslaught of news and the constant drone of social media can lull us into a false sense of security. But complacency, as I said, is one of the major components of deception in the end times; and if we are negligent in our approach to life, deception will keep us complacent, lead us astray and ensure our demise.

Understanding the enemy’s deceptive strategies, then, is key to gaining wisdom and defeating the devil.

“There is nothing more important than this topic for a Christian,” says Paul McGuire, an internationally recognized prophecy expert; commentator on CNN, Fox News and the History Channel; and former host of the nationally syndicated *Paul McGuire Show*. “The Bible teaches us that every satanic system shares one thing in common: They all move forward through the use of either spiritual deception or psychological deception.”³

The devil employs and energizes many different ideologies, religions and belief systems to lull us into complacency and spread deception so that we will not come to a saving knowledge of Christ or awaken to the reality that powerful forces are setting the global stage for the rise of the Antichrist.

This book is designed not only to alert you to the signs of the end times, but to help you avoid the pitfalls of deception enveloping the planet today. It will help you walk in the supernatural power, protection and provision of the Holy Spirit amid the pervasive deception arising in these last days. Our overarching goal is to inform, enlighten and prepare you to navigate the propaganda, disinformation and deceptive ideologies that have infiltrated the Church and society.

Each chapter of this book looks at deception through the lens of the end times, the Bible, the military and current events. It uses a personal anecdote related to deception, a U.S. Army term or technique and spiritual warfare disciplines and strategies to help you become a battle-ready warrior of God prepared for “the glorious appearing” of Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13 NKJV).

We will explore ways of ensuring that you and your loved ones are prepared for the continuous onslaught of false information, propaganda, diabolical doctrines and a host of other deceitful tactics of the enemy.

TACTICS, TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES

At the end of every chapter, we will suggest tactics, techniques and procedures based on military principles that will transform

your life as you practice and apply them. Here are some to get you started:

- 1. Reach for spiritual growth.** What is one area in which you would like to grow? Ask the Holy Spirit and reach out to a trusted person to get his or her advice on how to improve in this area.
- 2. Do not settle.** Have a continual improvement attitude. In other words, do not settle for where you are in your relationship with the Lord. “Without faith it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6 MEV).
- 3. Change things up.** It is difficult to do the same thing every day without an end in sight. Change a common routine you have in some way—shift focus—so you can take time for yourself, your family and your relationship with God. The military uses forced change to refocus the troops and alleviate complacency.
- 4. Schedule devotional time.** Set up a time to gather your family or close friends for a devotional or Bible reading time when you impart God’s Word to yourself and your loved ones. Know that as you read and speak God’s Word, that Word will be imparted to you. If possible, schedule a regular time to do this.
- 5. Learn from mistakes (AAR).** The military uses After Action Reviews to highlight what went right and to learn from mistakes. What sin or mistake are you tired of repeating? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you a fresh approach—something you have not done before. Do not let your past dictate your future.