

**WITH ONE EYE OPEN**



**“Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more.”**

**1 Thess. 4:9-10**

**“You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat sheep without feeding the flock. Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and severity you have dominated them. And they were scattered for lack of a shepherd, and they became food for every beast of the field and were scattered.” Ezek. 34:3-5**

**CONCERNING THREATS:**



**1. BE ON THE LOOK OUT. Vs. 17-18**

**“Now I urge you brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them. For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites...” vs.**

**Divide.**

**Discourage.**

**Devour.**

**Disillusionment.**

**Depart from the truth.**

**Greedy for money.**

**Eyes filled with  
adultery.**



**“...and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting.” vs. 18**

“But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.”      2 Peter 2:1-3

## **2. BE ON OFFENSE. Vs. 19**

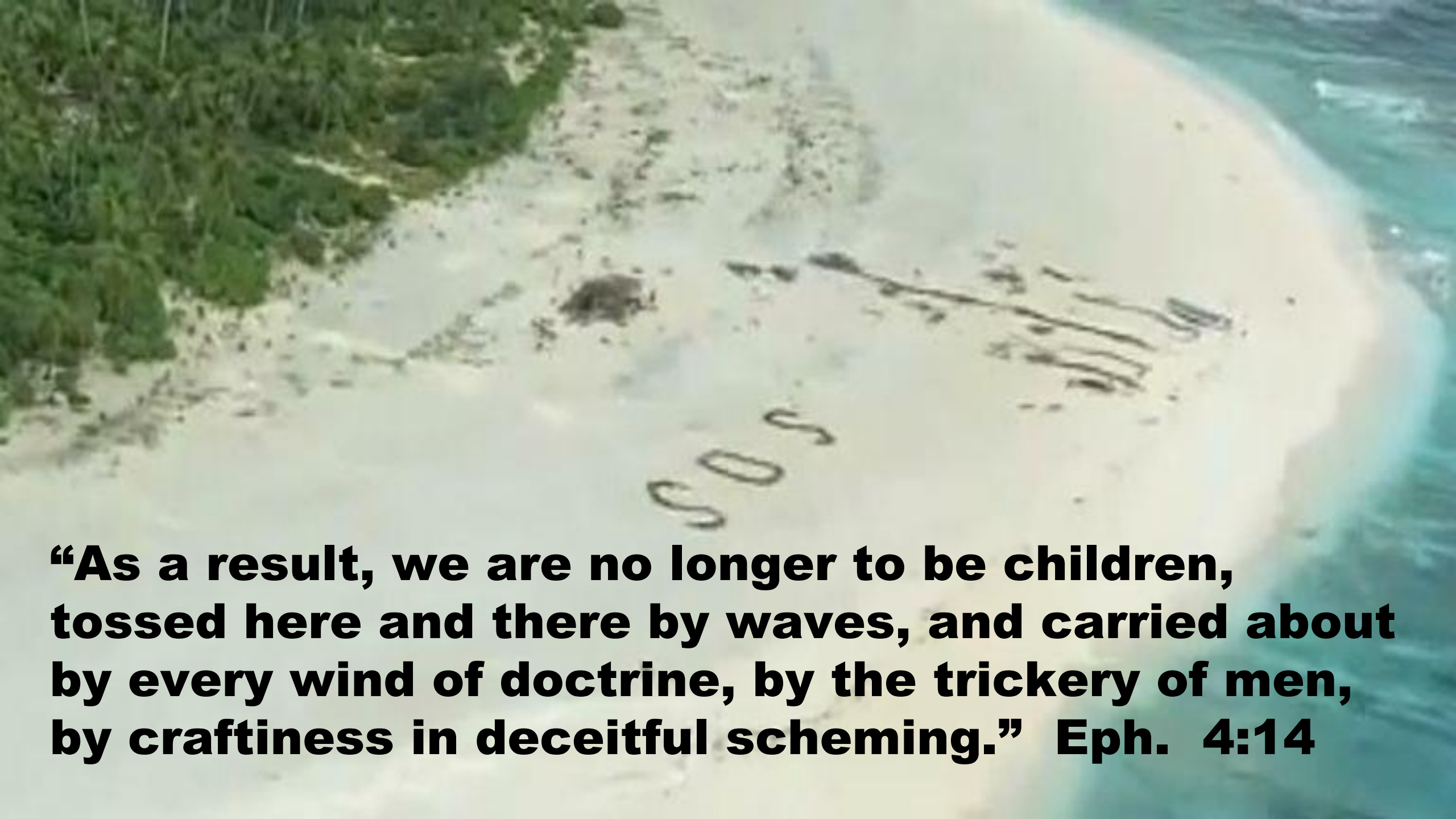
**“For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I am rejoicing over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good, and innocent in what is evil.”**

“But prove yourselves doers of the Word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves...But the one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.” James 2:22, 25

**“And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not act upon them, will be like a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand.” Matt. 7:26**

**“...I want you to be wise in what is good, and innocent in what is evil.” vs. 19b**





**“As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming.” Eph. 4:14**

A cityscape, likely New York City, is shown from an elevated perspective. The sky is filled with a large, glowing, feathered figure, possibly an angel or a large bird, with its wings spread wide. The figure is illuminated with a bright, ethereal light, creating a dramatic and spiritual atmosphere. The city buildings below are in shadow, contrasting with the bright light of the figure above.

**3. BE AWARE OF THE SPIRITUAL BATTLE.**

**“And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.” vs. 20**

**“Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be on the alert...” Acts 20:28-31**

**“Far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.” Eph. 1:21-23**

**“And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.” vs. 16**

# **APPLICATION FOR ME:**

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