

UNDERSTANDING LIES

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Today, Christians lie freely either in joke form, deceptively or defensively. Many have become blinded by the spirit of lies that they do not see anything wrong in lying. They lie without a guilty conscience. Their hearts have become hardened, as it were, seared with a hot iron.

Lying is evil, dangerous and deadly. It has destroyed many lives – the lives of the liars, the deceived and the one's who has been lied against.

There is a need for us to look into this subject and see what the Bible teaches on it. Open up your heart to God's word and His Spirit and receive deliverance in Jesus name. Amen.

MEANING OF A LIE

A lie is a statement that is not true. To tell a lie therefore is to make a statement that one knows to be untrue.

DECEPTION is another word for a lie. It could be with words or without words.

ORIGIN OF LIES

God does not lie because He is God and no one can query, judge or punish Him. He is not a man; neither is He a son of man. He is above all and no one is above Him. So there is no reason why He should lie.

"God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?" {Numbers 23:19}

"He who is the glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind." {1Samuel 15:29}

God does not lie and doesn't change his mind. That is why we can trust him at all times for any thing. He is dependable. Liars can't be trusted for any thing because they change their mind every now and then. Lying did not originate from God, but from the Devil who is the Father of all lies.

"A faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time." {Titus 1:2}

"God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged." {Hebrews 6:18}

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the father except through me.....If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will

ask the Father, and he will give you another counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.’” {John 14:6,15-17}

Jesus Christ is the truth and bears witness to the truth. So he can't lie or encourage lies. The Spirit of God as we have seen in the above passage is the Spirit of truth. He does not lie and does not inspire lies. Every thing he says or inspires is truth and no lie or deception in it. So his words and inspiration can be trusted any time any day.

You can see that lies do not proceed from God, but from the Devil.

Satan is the father of all lies.

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of all lies.” {John 8:44}

From the above passage, we can deduce the following:

- Satan is the father of all lies.
- Satan is the originator and source of all lies.
- Lying is the native language of the devil – it is natural for the devil to lie. This indicates that every statement, idea, and inspiration from the devil is either a complete lie or contains lies, or is rooted in lies.
- Any one who lies identifies himself with the devil, and brings himself under the power and dominion of Satan and his evil spirits.
- Lying opens the door for demons to enter into someone, possess and oppress the person.
- When one lies, he trespasses into the territory of the devil, and the devil is legally free to do whatever pleases him to any trespasser. Lying opens the door for affliction. It destroys the wall of defense built around the believer by God.

“Whosoever breaketh a hedge, a serpent will bite him” {Ecclesiastes 10:8}

Therefore be careful what you say with your mouth, it could endanger your life and salvation.

- To lie is to embrace the devil as a father, since to lie is to deny the truth.
- To lie is to deny Jesus Christ as your Father for He is truth - When you lie you deny the truth.

TYPES OF LIE

- 1 JOKEOUS LIE:** Lie said while joking. The liar intends not to harm but only joking and making fun.

- 2 **DECEPTIVE LIE:** Lie told with the intention of deceiving another person or persons. It is told with intent to steal, conceal information, harm, cheat, confuse, mislead someone and bear false witness.
- 3 **DEFENSIVE LIE:** Lie told with intent to defend self or a friend. It is told to cover crime committed, and hinder the truth from coming to light.

A lie is a lie. Whether it is a jokeous, deceptive or defensive lie, it is a lie, and carries the same penalty according to the bible.

One lie leads to another lie. A liar must always tell a new lie to cover up the old lie when caught. Such a one unknowingly has submitted himself to the spirit and father of all lies – Satan.

Lying does not solve the problem of man. Lying destroys a man's image and name. Lying makes a man to be untrustworthy when caught in the act of lying. Lying destroys a man's integrity, and can keep him from a lot of blessings and favours. It can close the door against the liar. Lying is so dangerous that it has destroyed a lot of families, marriages, churches, organizations, relationships, friendships and lives. Be truthful always. It pays to be truthful. God rewards honesty. Men too reward honesty. Decide today to be honest and truthful always. Never lie because it will endanger your life.

Truth is very powerful. Jesus said truth will always set a man free.

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." {John 8:31}

When you are caught lying, it will be too bad. You will always experience what you did not bargain for. Be truthful.

GOD'S COMMAND ABOUT LIES

"Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not deceive one another" {Leviticus 19:11}

"Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices." {Colossians 3:9}

"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbour, for we are all members of one body." {Ephesians 4:25}

God by all these decrees has outlawed lying for man, especially the believer. God hates liars and lying. Don't be one.

THE CONSEQUENCES FOR LYING

Speaking of heaven, the scripture says, *"Nothing impure will enter it nor anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the lambs book of life."*{Revelation 21:27}

Heaven cannot contain liars.

Therefore if you are ever planning on going to heaven then you have to desist from lying.

“But outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.” {Revelation 22:15}. Read also Romans 1:28-32.

If a man does not please God there is no way that he will allow that person to enter his kingdom. Lying displeases God, and therefore disqualifies one from entering heaven. Lying is devilish and is destructive

CONCLUSION

Now is the time to face the truth. Now is the moment of truth. Now is the time to face this problem and deal with it. To be a liar is to be in darkness and in fellowship with the devil. Therefore you cannot claim to have fellowship with the light.

“This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his son, purifies us from all sin” {1 John 1:5-7}.

Destroy lies out of your life today be free. Take authority over the spirit of lies and drive him out of your life in Jesus name, and command him never to return. Determine in your heart today never to lie again. Resist every temptation to lie, even when joking or in a serious crisis. Then you prove by so doing that you are a son of God and in right fellowship with him.

Speak the truth at all times no matter what it may cost you. You will always be rewarded. Be known as a man of truth in whom there is no deceit.

Lying destroys, distorts, damages a man’s image and brings shame. The lake of fire awaits all liars.

May you not be known as a liar. May your words not be doubted because of your past record of lies when you are telling the truth in a critical moment. May it be said of you, “he does not lie at all, and you can trust his word.” Let the grace to be truthful be on you all the days of your life in Jesus name, amen.