

God Hates a Lying Tongue

Pr 6:16 These six *things* doth the LORD hate: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him: 17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19 A false witness *that* speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

Introduction:

1. A police officer pulled a guy over for speeding. He walked up to his window and said, "May I see your driver's license?" The driver replied, "I don't have one. I had it suspended when I got my 5th DUI." The officer then said, "May I see the owner's card for this vehicle?" The driver said, "This is not my car. I stole it."

The officer, surprised at the answer said, "The car is stolen?" The driver said, "That's right. But come to think of it, I think I saw the owner's card in the glove box when I was putting my gun in there." "There's a gun in the glove box?" asked the officer.

"Yes sir. That's where I put it after I shot and killed the woman who owns this car and stuffed her in the trunk."

"There's a BODY in the TRUNK?"

"Yes sir."

The officer said, "Sir, stay in the car and don't move." He then walked back to his car and immediately called his captain. In no time the car was quickly surrounded by numerous police cars, one being the captain. The captain approached the driver and said, "Sir, can I see your license?"

The driver said, "Sure. Here it is." Sure enough, he had a valid license.

The captain then asked, "Whose car is this?" The driver said it was his and handed him the registration to the car. The captain then asked him to open the glove box so he could see if a gun was in it. He opened the

glove box and there was no gun in it. The captain finally asked if he would get out of the car and open the trunk. When he looked inside there was no body inside.

The captain then said to the driver, "I don't understand this. My officer said that you told him that you did not have a license, that you had stolen this car, that you had a gun in the glove box, and that there was a dead body in the trunk. The driver said, "He did huh, and I bet the liar told you I was speeding, too."

2. The story makes me think of one definition that I found for lying; a lie is an abomination to the Lord and a very present help in the time of trouble.
3. Lying has become a way of life for many.
 - a. Lying is so common that certain groups are identified with lying
 - b. Take lawyers, politicians and used car salesmen for example
4. A fellow was walking through a cemetery one day and noticed a tombstone that read, "Here lies a honest man and a lawyer." He thought to himself, "Well, how about that. Two men buried in the same grave."
5. There was a bus load of politicians who were driving down a country road when, all of a sudden, the bus ran off the road, and crashed into a tree in an old farmer's field. The old farmer, after seeing what had happened, went over to investigate. He then proceeded to dig a hole to bury the politicians. A few days later the local sheriff came out, saw the crashed bus, and asked the old farmer what happened to the politicians that were in the bus. The old farmer said he had buried them. The sheriff asked the old farmer, "Were they all dead?" The old farmer replied, "Well, some of them said they weren't, but you know how them politicians lie."
6. Now, I know that not all lawyers and politicians are liars. I have met some good lawyers and politicians.
7. But unfortunately, many are known for the lying.
 - a. The simple truth of the matter is that lying is not limited to lawyers and politicians.

- b. Studies have found lying is very common.
 - c. Studies have found that people lie in 30 to 38% of all their interactions
8. Let's think about lying by first noticing:

I. THE ORIGIN OF LIES - JN 8:44

Joh 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

- Jesus told us that the origin of all lies is the devil.
- Jesus described:

A. *The Character of the Devil*

1. Jesus spoke of the devil as “a murderer from the beginning.”
2. Satan's first and foremost objective is to dishonor God.
3. His next great objective is to destroy man.
4. He seeks the destruction and ruin of every life.
5. Jesus said that he “abode not in the truth.”
 - a) *These words take us back to his fall and casting out of heaven.*
 - b) *Why did the devil not abide in truth? Jesus said it was because there was “no truth in him.”*
 - c) *He was evil to the core and that evil nature was and is constantly manifested.*
6. Because there is no truth in him, “he speaketh a lie.”
 - a) *He “is a liar” and the “father” of all liars and lies.*
 - b) *It is the devils nature to lie or as Jesus said, “he speaketh of his own.”*
 - c) *He is the world's first liar and the world's greatest liar.*
7. What is sad is that people believe his lies every day.
 - a) *He lies when he tells people to wait for a later time to be saved.*
 - b) *He lies when he tells people that they will really be happy in a life of sin.*

- c) *He lies when he tells people that they have plenty of time.*
8. Jesus not only spoke of the character of the devil, but He also mentioned:

B. The Children of the Devil

44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do...

1. You are either a child of God or the child of the devil.
 - a) *If you are saved you are children of God. If not, you are a child of the devil.*
 - b) *You either belong to God or you belong to the devil.*
2. Jesus said to the Pharisees “the lusts of your father ye will do.”
 - a) *Children have the tendency to behave like their parents.*
 - b) *The children of the devil act like their father.*
 - c) *How many times has someone said, “You remind me of your father.”*
3. When a person lies about another person he is acting like the devil.
 - a) *Those who are persistent liars are acting like they are children of the devil.*
 - b) *A child of God does not slander, bear false witness and lie about people.*
 - c) *Such behavior is characteristic of those who have not been saved.*
4. I heard about a Church that was having service when right in the middle of the service the devil walked in. Everybody ran except one fellow. The devil snarled at him and said, “Aren’t you afraid of me?” The fellow replied, “Why should I be, I have been married to your sister for 20 years.”
5. Secondly, think with me of not only the origin of lying but also:

The Origin of Lies....

II. THE OPERATION OF LIES

- Why and how do people lie about others?
- First, let’s take the why and then the how. Let’s think first about:

A. The Motive of Bearing False Witness

1. The dictionary defines lying as...
 - a) *...to make an untrue statement with the intent to deceive*
 - b) *...to create a false or misleading impression.*
2. When a person bears false witness he is motivated by the desire to cast doubts on a person's character and injure his reputation.
3. The father of lies gives us a good example of why people lie about another.
 - a) *In Gen 3:1 we read of Satan appearing to Eve and saying, "Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"*
 - b) *That's not exactly what God said. What God actually said was, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17). It was not every tree but one tree.*
4. First, Satan made misleading statements about what God said.
 - a) *Then he even went as far to accuse God of being a liar.*
 - b) *God clearly said, "for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:17). Satan said to Eve, "Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:4).*
 - c) *Satan was telling Eve that God had lied to her.*
 - d) *What was he trying to do? He was attacking the character of God with an untrue statement for the purpose of making God look bad in Eve's eyes. That was his purpose and motive.*
5. On another occasion, we not only see Satan trying to make God look bad to man, but we also see him trying to make man look bad to God.
 - a) *In Job 1:9 we hear Satan asking God, "Doth Job fear God for nought?"*
 - b) *It was a question that was asked to raise suspicion as to Job's sincerity and motives for serving God."*
 - c) *Again, the motive was to make Job look bad in the eyes of God.*
6. Satan lied to man about God and he lied to God about man.
 - a) *In each case, it was to hurt the name and reputation of the other.*
 - b) *Whenever someone lies about another person the motive is always*

to hurt the name and reputation of person, as well as cast doubts on that person's character.

c) *He is acting like the devil himself.*

B. The Method of Bearing False Witness

- The Bible has many descriptions of lying and bearing false witness.
- Let's look at a few.

1. Slander - Ps 101:5

5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.

a) *The word "privily" means "a cover."*

(1) It described someone placing a cover over something to conceal it.

(2) The word speaks of someone slandering another secretly, or as we would say, behind someone's back.

b) *The idea behind the word "slandereth" is to accuse someone of something for which they are not guilty.*

(1) The word "slandereth" literally means, "to wag the tongue."

(2) I have met a few tongue wagger in my life.

(3) I think of the Methodist evangelist Sam Jones. He was uncouth and cut no corners and held back no punches in his preaching. One night in one of his meetings a lady came down the aisle who was known for her gossiping. She said she wanted to lay her tongue on the altar. Jones looked at her and said, "There's the mourner's bench. It is 12 feet long, lay as much of it as you can on it."

2. Talebearer

Pr 11:13 A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

a) *The idea behind "talebearer" is of someone who travels about spreading gossiping, spreading rumors, and telling lies.*

b) *R.G. LeTourneau, owner of a large earth-moving equipment*

company told this story. “We used to have a scarper known the model ‘G.’ Somebody asked one of our salesman one day what the ‘G’ stood for. The salesman replied, ‘The ‘G’ stands for gossip, because like gossip, this machine moves a lot of dirt and moves it fast.’”

- c) A talebearer is someone who goes around spreading dirt about other people.
- d) The Apostle Paul spoke of such in 1 Tim. 5:13 where we read
13 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.

3. Whisperer

Pr 16:28 A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.

- a) A “forward man” is someone who is guilty of fraud and cheats another person.
- b) A whisperer is someone who goes behind a person’s back and talks about him.
- c) Paul writing to the Church of Corinth wrote....
2Co 12:20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults:
- d) The Bible not only speaks to the one who tells lies, but also to those one who listen to those lies.
Pr 26:20 Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.
- e) A simple translation of what that verse says is, “If you will quit listening to gossip, the talebearer will not have anyone to gossip to.”
- f) D.L. Moody in one of his books told about a lady named Hannah Moore. She had a method that was a sure cure for gossip.

- Whenever someone said something to her about another, her invariable reply was, "Come, we will go and ask if it be true."*
- g) *Let me remind you that if a person will gossip to you, they will gossip about you.*
 - h) *When it comes to talking about others behind their back, it would do us well to remember the old saying, "There is so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it ill behooves the best of us, to talk about the rest of us."*

The Operation of Lies....

III. THE OUTCOME OF LIES - EPH 4:25

25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

- We sometimes speak of little white lies but as far as the Bible is concerned all lying is black as the ace of spades.
- We sometimes excuse and condone gossiping, but the Bible does not tolerate lies of any kind, especially those that involve bearing false witness.

A. Hurtful To Others - Ps 55:21

21 *The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.*

1. Oh, the damage that a lying tongue brings to the reputation and good name of a person.
2. Clovis Chappell, in his book *Ten Rules for Living* writes: "There is no measuring the pain, the heartache, and the tears that the bearing of false witness has caused. Such a man robs his victim of treasures that are more priceless than life."
3. The liar's tongue is compared to a drawn sword
Jas 3:8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.
4. The tongue is like a poisonous snake sending out its deadly and

destructible poison.

5. Someone has written:
 - a) A careless word may kindle strife,
 - b) *A cruel word may wreck a life,*
 - c) *A bitter word may hate instill,*
 - d) *A brutal word may smite and kill.*
6. Secondly, we are to put all lying from us because it is so:

B. Hated by God - Prov 6:16-19

1. Our text tells us that God hates a lying tongue and one who bears false witness
2. These things are an abomination to God - they are disgusting and abhorred by God
3. A person who would bear false witness against another makes God sick!
4. God hates a liar so much that He promises that those who bear false witness will not be ignored or condoned.
Ps 101:5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.
 - a) *The words “cut off” mean “to destroy.”*
 - b) *God will destroy the person who would seek to destroy and defame another.*
 - c) *God says that the person who slanders his neighbor will not get by with his sin.*
5. The Bible is very clear about the kind of person who would bear false witness.
Re 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.
 - a) *God classifies a liar with murderers, whoremongers and like such. What a terrible class to be identified with.*
 - b) *The Bible is not saying that if you tell a lie it will cause you to go*

to hell.

- (1) What it is saying is that a liar is but revealing what he really is—someone who does not know the grace of God in his life—someone who has never been saved and will one day spend eternity in hell.

Conclusion:

1. Lying is an abomination to God and He hates lying
2. Dave was a new Christian. A few weeks later he was closing a deal with the manager of a large company. The customer turned to Dave and said, "Dave, tell me which of these products company x bought from you." The difference between the price of the products was substantial and the loss of commission would be great. Before he realized it, he had lied. He told the customer that the rival company bought the more expensive product. Believing Dave, the customer placed a very large order for the product. They shook hands and Dave packed up his briefcase to leave. Dave was no longer alone, he had the Holy Spirit living in him. "You told a lie, Dave." His conscience said. Dave felt miserable in spite of having closed the big deal. "Go back and make it right." Dave couldn't stand the thought of going back to the customer and admitting he had lied. A day went by. The next day, Dave made an appointment with the customer. "My life has been changed recently by Jesus Christ. I have been a colossal liar. I'm sorry, but I lied to you the other day. The company you asked about bought the cheaper item. Please forgive me. I understand how you must feel, so I am willing to cancel this contract. You may not want to do business with a company that would employ a fellow like me. But in case you do, I'll send you another salesman. As you can imagine, the customer just sat there with his mouth open catching flies. He was speechless. But to make a long story short he kept the contract and was deeply moved by Dave's testimony.

3. Be sure that you love the truth and are telling the truth