

All Liars - cont.

- You cannot “cover your tracks” forever (Genesis 26:8; Proverbs 19:5, 9)
- The benefits from lying are only momentary (Proverbs 21:6)
- It creates delusions (Jer. 23:32)
- You become hardened (1 Timothy 4:1-2)
- It destroys your influence

Lying would be nice if we could get away with it, but we can't (Numbers 32:23) ... if it would change the truth, but it won't (Romans 1:24-25) ... if it would do any good, but it won't (Romans 3:8) ... if it would keep us from hell, but it won't (Revelation 21:8).

What Should Our Attitude Be Toward Lying?

Recognize it as the evil it is. We should hate it as God does (Psalm 31:6; 40:4). We should rebuke it (Titus 1:12-13). We should put it off (Col. 3:9). We should love truth (2 Thessalonians 2:9-12). We should guard our hearts (Matthew 15:19-20). We should speak truth no matter the cost (Eph. 4:25).

All Liars - Cont.

Liar, Liar

Friends, we serve a God who cannot and will not lie (Tit. 1:2; Heb. 6:18). As such, God will not accept liars into heaven (Psa. 101:7; Rev. 14:15; 21:27; 22:15). Where will you spend eternity? In heaven as a truth-teller, or in hell as a liar?

- Chris Reeves -

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death.

- Revelation 21:8 -

Why Is Lying Common Today?

There is no question that lying is popular today. It is everywhere. There is lying at school, at work, in politics, in the home, in the community, in the church, etc. Why so much lying? Well, it is easy to do. It is habit forming. It gets one out of a bind quickly (fear, profit, hurt others, etc.). It is easily justified, excused, and minimized.

And lying is committed by even “good” men. In Bible times, men like Abraham, Isaac, and Peter all lied. Some enjoy lying (Psalm 62:4), some lie to protect themselves (Genesis 12:11-13; 20:2; 26:7; Isaiah 28:15), and some lie for gain (2 Peter 2:1-3).

What Does the Bible Say About Lying?

- Satan is the father of lies (Genesis 3:4; John 8:44)

- Lying is condemned in the Old Testament (Leviticus 19:11)
- God hates liars (Proverbs 6:17,19; 12:22; 19:5,9)
- The first recorded sin in the New Testament church was lying (Acts 5:3)
- Lying is condemned in the New Testament (1 Timothy 1:10)
- All liars will be punished hell fire (Revelation 21:8)

People will often ask, “Is it sometimes right to lie?” “What about Rahab the harlot, didn’t she lie?” Yes, Rahab was a harlot and a liar (Joshua 2:1-7). However, she is commended for her faith in God, not her prostitution or her lying (Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25). The fact is, lying is always wrong! There are no such things as “little white lies” and there is no “situation ethics” that justifies lying on certain occasions.

How Are Lies Committed?

- Speaking that which is not true (Proverbs 12:19; Ephesians 4:25; 1 Timothy 2:7; 1 John 2:21). This can be done in religion (1 Kings 13:11ff; Jeremiah 14:14; 23:32; Ezekiel 13:6-19). This can also be done through gossip,

blasphemy, malice, slander, backbiting, boasting, half-truths, lying to self, carelessness, etc.

- Taking a true statement out of context (Mark 14:57-58; compare with John 2:22)
- Remaining silent about the facts so that others get a different impression of the truth due to our silence.
- Acting out of duplicity (Matthew 26:48-49)
- Acting hypocritically – “living a lie” (1 John 1:6,8; 2:4; 4:20; Jeremiah 7:4-11)

What Are the Consequences of Lying?

- You hurt yourself (Genesis 3:14ff; Psalm 120:1-4; Romans 1:25-26)
- You hurt others (Genesis 12:17-18; 26:10; Proverbs 12:17-21; 14:25; 25:18-19; 26:28; Isaiah 32:7; Jeremiah 9:3-5)
- You lie to God (Hosea 7:13; Acts 5:4)

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