

Lying

John 8:44

Introduction:

- A. Lying is a common and accepted practice in this country.
 - 1. Prime example: Our president and other government officials.
 - 2. A TV special report following the impeachment trials – most people admitted it without shame.
- B. The Devil is, indeed, the father of lying (cf. Gen. 3:4)
- C. Christians must put away lying. (Eph. 4:25).
- D. We want to notice four aspects of lying in this lesson.

Discussion:

I. The Procedures Of Lying.

- A. There is more than one way to lie, according to dictionary definition:
 - 1. “A false statement or action, especially one made with intent to deceive”¹
 - 2. “Anything that gives or is meant to give a false impression”²
- B. There are examples of various forms of lying found the Bible.
 - 1. Direct outright spoken lie — Cain (Gen. 4:9).
 - 2. Actions or gestures designed to lead another to believe a lie.
 - a. Joseph's blood stained coat. (Gen. 37:32-33).
 - b. Ananias (Acts 5:1-3) — Three hours later his wife lied outright. (vv. 7,8).

II. The Prevalence Of Lying.

- A. Common practice among wicked men.
- B. Often done by otherwise good people, especially under pressure.
 - 1. Abraham. (Gen. 12:11-19; 20:12).
 - 2. Sarah. (Gen. 18:15).
 - 3. Isaac. (Gen. 26:7-10).
 - 4. Aaron. (Ex. 32:24).
- C. It is too often found among professed Christians today.
 - 1. Often tell “white lies” under pressure.
 - 2. Cheat in various ways: In school, on taxes, etc.
 - 3. Tell stories that have been around for years as if happened to them.

III. The Perniciousness Of Lying.

- A. It undermines the essential qualitties for good relationships:
 - 1. Credibility.
 - 2. Trust.
 - 3. Reputation.
- B. It has a way of progressing from bad to worse.
 - 1. Often fosters more lying to cover up.
 - 2. May become habitual.

IV. The Punishment of Lying.

- A. Maybe in this life.
 - 1. Loss of friends.
 - 2. Pangs of conscience.
- B. For sure, in the world to come.
 - 1. The father of lies will be cast into hell. (Rev. 20:10)
 - 2. All liars will be cast into hell. (Rev. 21:8).

Conclusion:

- A. No one likes to be called a liar, but there is something worse—being a liar.
- B. Christians must always love truth above all else—avoid lying at all cost

¹Webster's New World Dictionary Of The American Language, College Edition

² Ibid