

BEING A LIGHT IN A DARK WORLD, PART TWO

A Call For Honesty

I. What Does The Word of God Say About Lying?

- *Prov. 6:16-19*
- *Prov. 12:22*
- *Prov. 19:9*
- *Col. 3:9-10*
- *Eph. 4:25*
- *John 8:44*
- *Rev. 21:8*

II. Six Contrasting Ethical Answers

1. Lying is neither right or wrong: there are no laws.
2. Lying is generally wrong: there are no universal laws.
3. Lying is sometimes right: there is only one universal law. (Love)
4. Lying is always wrong: there are many non-conflicting laws.
5. Lying is forgivable: there are many conflicting laws.
6. Lying is sometimes right: there are higher laws. (Law of Love? Law of Life?)

Norman L. Geisler, Christian Ethics: Options and Issues (Baker Book House, 1989)

III. Five Examples of Lying That Saved Lives

1. *Ex. 1:19* - Hebrew midwives lied to Pharaoh and refused to abort the babies.
2. *Jos. 2* - Rahab lied to save the lives of the Israeli spies.
3. *Gen. 12:13* - Abram told Sarai to lie to Abimelech so that his life would be spared and he would find favor. (You are my sister - half-truth; Sarai was his half-sister. (*Gen. 20:12*)
 1. *Gen. 12:13* - Abraham Lied
 2. *Gen. 20* - Lied again to King Gerar
 3. *Gen. 26* - Isaac made Rebekah lie
4. Corrie Ten Boom - Christian holocaust survivor watched the Nazis torture and kill her sister, Betsy. She lied to save many Jews from the Nazi death camps.
5. Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North (1987) admitted during the U.S. Senate hearings on the Iran-Contra issue that "he had to weigh between lying and lives." In doing so, he saved many innocent lives.

IV. Specific Kinds Of Lying

- Outright Falsehoods
- False Promises
- Flattery
- False Doctrine
- Hypocrisy
- Half-Truths
- Self-Deception
- Exaggerations

V. Five Reasons That People Lie

1. They have something to hide.
2. They feel that they can get away with it.
3. They feel entitled and have a right to lie.
4. They have serious, character flaws.
5. The truth is too embarrassing to admit.

VI. Should You Ever Lie To Your Fiance' or Spouse?

"Tell a lie once and all of your truths will become questionable."

VII. Overcoming Habitual Lying and Deceit

- Love truth -- Ps. 119:104-128, Ps. 119:163, I Cor. 13:6
- Fill your heart with truth -- Mat. 12:34, Ph. 4:8, Ps. 15:2, Ps. 51:6,
- Stay Far From Falsehood -- Ex. 23:7, Prov. 4:24, Prov. 30:8
- Avoid people known to lie -- Prov. 17:4, Ps. 101:7
- Be accountable and apologize for the lie the moment it is spoken!

I CHOOSE TO BE AN HONEST LEADER.

Name

Date