

What Is a Lie? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "If everyone is speaking their own truth, then what is a lie?"

ANSWER: First, define "truth," then every deviation from that is a lie, by definition.

1. "Truth" is an accurate statement of fact. "Truth" occurs in 210 Bible verses, not one of which has the plural "truths!" THEREFORE THE BIBLE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE SUBJECTIVE "TRUTHS!" Since "no lie is of the truth" (1 John 2:21), and truth is to be practiced (1 John 1:6), the Bible is written to "make you know the certainty of the words of truth, That you may answer words of truth" (Proverbs 22:20-21). "Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar" (Romans 3:4). Bible facts, scientific facts, life events are all sources of "truth," and require a truthful telling of those facts! Truth doesn't change, but reporting of the truth may change.

2. **Deviations all come from the Devil.** Jesus stated that:

"[the Devil] does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it." (John 8:44)

When the Devil controls someone's heart, they'll be "speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:2). EVERYONE WHO IS GIVEN TO LYING WILL LOSE THEIR CONSCIENCE ABOUT THEIR LIES! David described it thusly:

My enemies speak evil of me: "When will he die, and his name perish?" And if he comes to see me, he speaks lies; His heart gathers iniquity to itself; When he goes out, he tells it. (Psalm 41:5-6)

Reporters, politicians, and editors who have a prejudiced opinion will only seek out their opinionated view of any situation in any country. This partial telling of "truth" is a lie. Propaganda is repeated lies. God hates: "A false witness who speaks lies" (**Proverbs 6:19**). A Chinese brother in Christ said: "I'm not surprised that the American Media is propaganda--I am surprised that Americans still pay attention to it."

3. Widespread because it is the "broad" way. Lying seeps through every crack and cranny of a solid civilization and destroys it from within. "'And like their bow they have bent their tongues for lies. They are not valiant for the truth on the earth. For they proceed from evil to evil, And they do not know Me,' says the LORD. 'Everyone take heed to his neighbor, And do not trust any brother; For every brother will

utterly supplant, And every neighbor will walk with slanderers. Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; They weary themselves to commit iniquity. Your dwelling place is in the midst of deceit; Through deceit they refuse to know Me,' says the LORD' (Jeremiah 9:3-6). This how Israelites were worthy to be removed from their land. The easy road (a.k.a. the "broad" way Matthew 7:13-14) is to influence people away from "truth" and say whatever they "feel," or "they want you to believe." Living in "LaLaLand" has permitted people to visualize screen fantasies as if they should be reproduced in life.

4. The Solution? "Therefore, putting away lying, 'Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,' for we are members of one another" (**Ephesians 4:25**). David said: "He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence" (**Psalm 101:7**).

—— jtpll, July 25, 2021