

Series: Striving Together For the Faith As a Family

# THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE

## WITNESS

EXODUS 20:16

Text: Exodus 20:16

### ***Exodus 20:16***

<sup>16</sup> *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.*

Introduction:

Today it seems that lying has become a part of everyday living.

Many have accepted it as the norm and as long as it's not a big lie then it's probably ok.

Some twist words to ease their conscience telling themselves that what I have said is not a lie – like one of our formal presidents who used the word “is.”

By the age of four, 90% of children have grasp the concept of lying and it gets worse from there.

According to a 2002 study conducted by the University of Massachusetts, 60% of adults can't have a ten minute conversation without lying at least once. But

even that number makes it sound better than it really is; those people in the study who did lie actually told an average of 3 lies during their brief chat. And I know you're sitting there right now insisting you would be part of the 40% that didn't lie. That's what the liars in the study thought, too. When they watched the taped conversations back, they were shocked at how many fibs they had told.

We lie to everyone. Our parents get the worst of it, according to *The Day America Told the Truth*, with 86% of us lying to them regularly, followed by friends (75%), siblings (73%), and spouses (69%). But in general we lie about things that aren't important, little things that we think will make us look better or more likeable.

In *USA Today* July 1, 2006, Joe Saltzman wrote, "Everybody lies. From the president of the U.S. to Congress to the smallest citizen in the country, we are a nation of liars. Parents still try to teach their children not to do so.

They retell the story of George Washington and the cherry tree or recite Proverbs 6:16-19 to make their point.

Yet, with the same breath, they tell their kids that, if they are not good, Santa Claus will not bring them any presents. They also urge their offspring to leave their

teeth under the pillow so the Tooth Fairy will reward them.

Children discover at an early age that skirting the truth will keep them out of trouble.

God hates lying. He says so in His Word. Today, we are going to look at a Commandment that tells us that God wants us to live and speak the truth.

Note:

## **1. THE EXPLANATION OF THIS COMMANDMENT**

The 9th Commandment is a command that we be honest in all of our ways and words; that we seek to never intentionally be dishonest.

### ***Proverbs 6:16-19***

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

**Proverbs 14:5**

*<sup>5</sup> A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies.*

**Colossians 3:9**

*<sup>9</sup> Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;*

**Ephesians 4:25**

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

As we see here in these passages:

One of the things that God hates is a lying tongue, which by the way occurs a lot because of the proud look.

Not only do we see the Explanation of this Commandment but note also:

## **2. THE APPLICATION OF THE COMMANDMENT**

There are three things about lying that we will consider.

## A. The Father of Lying

### **John 8:44**

<sup>44</sup> *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.*

- The devil Lies About God to People

### **Genesis 3:1**

<sup>1</sup> *Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

### **Genesis 3:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> *And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: <sup>5</sup> For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

- The Devil Lies About People to God

### **Job 1:7-12**

<sup>7</sup> *And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou*

*considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?<sup>9</sup> Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?<sup>10</sup> Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.<sup>11</sup> But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.<sup>12</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.*

Satan tells the Lord that the only reason Job serves Him is because God has paid him off. He says that if God were to remove His hand from Job's life, Job would turn his back on the Lord.

It is quite an accusation from quite an accuser. Did you know that Satan is still standing against the people of God? Did you know that he still accuses you and me of sin before the throne of the Lord? One man said that Satan was like a gravedigger, because he was always trying to dig up dirt on the saints. He is the "accuser of the brethren"

***Revelation 12:10***

*<sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our*

*God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.*

But even in the face of his accusations, the saints of God have an Advocate! Satan acts the part of a prosecuting attorney. He exposes our weaknesses and our wickedness before God, and most of the time, he doesn't have to make anything up! Even while he accuses us before God, we have One Who pleads our case before the bar of Heaven, and His name is Jesus Christ.

***1 John 2:1***

*<sup>1</sup> My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:*

Note not only the Father of Lying but also:

B. The Features of Those Who Lie

- Some are perjurers (Lying while under oath)
- Some are gossipers

***Proverbs 11:13***

*<sup>13</sup> A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.*

### **Proverbs 18:8**

<sup>8</sup> *The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.*

### **Proverbs 20:19**

<sup>19</sup> *He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.*

### **Proverbs 26:22**

<sup>22</sup> *The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.*

- Some are false prophets

### **Jeremiah 14:14**

<sup>14</sup> *Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.*

### **1 Kings 22:4-9**

<sup>4</sup> *And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to battle to Ramothgilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, I am as thou art, my people as thy people, my horses as thy horses.* <sup>5</sup> *And Jehoshaphat said unto the king of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the word of the LORD to day.* <sup>6</sup> *Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said*



unto them, Shall I go against Ramothgilead to battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king. <sup>7</sup> And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him? <sup>8</sup> And the king of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one man, Micaiah the son of Imlah, by whom we may enquire of the LORD: but I hate him; for he doth not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the king say so. <sup>9</sup> Then the king of Israel called an officer, and said, Hasten hither Micaiah the son of Imlah.

### **1 Kings 22:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> And the messenger that was gone to call Micaiah spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets declare good unto the king with one mouth: let thy word, I pray thee, be like the word of one of them, and speak that which is good. <sup>14</sup> And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.

### **1 Kings 22:23**

<sup>23</sup> Now therefore, behold, the LORD hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these thy prophets, and the LORD hath spoken evil concerning thee.

### **1 John 2:22-23**

<sup>22</sup> Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the

*Son. <sup>23</sup> Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.*

- Some Are Hypocrites

***Matthew 23:28***

*<sup>28</sup> Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.*

- Some Are Boasters

***Acts 5:1-4***

*<sup>1</sup> But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, <sup>2</sup> And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. <sup>3</sup> But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? <sup>4</sup> Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.*

Note not only the Father of Lying and the Features of Those Who Lie but also:

## C. The Fate of Those Who Habitually Lie

### **Revelation 21:8**

<sup>8</sup> *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.*

### **Revelation 21:27**

<sup>27</sup> *And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.*

Close:

God still hates lying lips. There is no such thing as a partial truth and a partial lie. It's either the truth or it is a lie. It's either right or it's wrong. There is no such thing as a little white lie.

We need to be honest and that begins with being honest with God.

**Isaiah 1:18**

<sup>18</sup> *Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*

**Ephesians 4:25**

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