

## It Is More Than Just Fake News

Aaron Cozort

### God Hates Lies.

"You shall not circulate a false report. Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness" (Exodus 23:1 NKJV). "These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren" (Proverbs 6:16-19). Twice in the Proverbs list of abominations before God are the lies of men. It can be stated no more clearly that a liar's actions and speech are abominable before the Lord.

### We Hate Lies.

"One of them, a prophet of their own, said, 'Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons'" (Titus 1:12). Not all people all hate lies all the time. Often people rejoice in lies when they support their cause, enrich themselves or cause problems for their enemies, but there comes a day when all the tables are turned, and the lies oppose them. Then, we all will hate lies. The truth of the matter is that lies are detrimental for humanity no matter how they are used and who they "help."

### Sin Came into the World by Lies.

"Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, 'Has God indeed said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" (Genesis 3:1). Satan made his entrance into the Sacred Scriptures with a lie. Jesus accused him of being the father of all lies and condemned liars as being of their father. "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and 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).

### Ananias and Sapphira Killed Themselves with Lies.

"But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, 'Ananias, ...Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.' Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last" (Acts 5:1-5a). It is possible to believe we are just deceiving men, just lying to Christians, only to find out too late that we were lying to God Himself. Ananias and Sapphira perished and entered eternity guilty of lying to God.

### Jesus Was Condemned by Lies.

"Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, 'This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days'" (Matthew 26:60-61).

### All Liars Have their Part in Eternal Punishment.

"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).

Lying is a scourge on all humanity, and a lying tongue should be cut off from the mouths of all Christians. May we ever speak the truth and be like the Lord so that it could be said of us that it is impossible for us to lie.

- Gospel Gazette Online -

Sin has many tools, but a lie is a handle that fits them all. - Oliver Wendell Holmes

## News & Notes

**PANTRY:** Peanut butter.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** *Calcutta Health Care:* Sam Burdine (Willard's brother).

*The Orchards Rehab in East Liverpool:* Charlotte Mader (David Steff's sister). *At Home:* Becky McKittrick, Stan Williams, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, David McCoy, Russell Martin, Claudette Miller, Cheryl Renfro Walker. *Weston, WV:* Rick Beck.

## DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

David Sain

One of the finest compliments that can be given to a Christian is, "You can always count on him."

Most of us appreciate the attribute of dependability. In business, employers know that it is important to have workers upon whom they can depend, even on a "bad day." In our social functions, we all know how secure we feel when we have a friend who is "always there for you" regardless of circumstances.

The Bible teaches Christians to be dependable and faithful at all times. Paul commanded, "be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).

Yet, some members of the church are not steadfast. They don't always abound in the work of the Lord. Instead, they are spasmodic in their Christianity. They are "on fire" for the Lord for awhile, but later lose their enthusiasm and dedication.

After being "participators," they become "spectators."

Some even develop a negative attitude and criticize much of what is being done. How demoralizing this is to the church, not to mention the fatal judgment awaiting one who remains in such a negligent condition.

In the Lord's kingdom, there is no room for slothfulness, and there is never an excuse for a negative attitude!

Even when circumstances do not permit one to be as physically involved as he or she would like, one's enthusiasm and attitude ought to still be on the positive side.

If you have been spasmodic in your Christianity, here is a message from the one who died for you:

"Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works" (Rev. 2:5).

- Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -