

Sins of the mouth: Lying
12-10-17

James 3 teaches us that our mouth can easily condemn us. Specifically, there are sins we can commit with our mouth, and there are righteous things we can do with our mouth:

Boasting.....Boasting in the Lord
Lying.....Speaking the Truth
Blasphemy.....Praising
Vulgarity.....Speaking with Grace
Evil Speaking.....Edification

Let us consider now the Evil of Lying. Lying is the intent and purpose to deceive, or deception for malicious intent. It is not lying to be wrong, to change your mind, and it is not lying when someone is easing / joking /using hyperbole (as Jesus did). There are four considerations on lying: Lying to God; Lying to yourself; Lying to others; Lying with good intentions.

1. Lying to God

Ananias - Acts 5:1-4

Attempting to appear righteous
Lying to the church = lying to God
When we lie to God we ALWAYS are caught

2. Lying to Yourself

a. The denial of our sins, both past and present

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 1 John 1:8

b. Not doing the things we read or hear

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22

c. Not controlling our mouths

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless. James 1:26

d. Believing we have amounted to much for God

For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. Gal.6:3

e. Believing we are wise due to worldly wisdom

Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 1 Cor. 3:18

3. Lying to Others

A despicable abomination to God

Leviticus 19:11

Proverbs 12:22

Ephesians 4:25

Colossians 3:9

4. Lying With Good Intent

But what about "white lies"?

- Lies with good intentions?

ALL liars are cast aside by God – Revelation 21:8

Many sins are done with good intentions
- Uzzah and the ark – 2 Samuel 6:6

ALTERNATIVE: Speaking the Truth in Love

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ
Eph. 4:15

- Christians are to speak the truth
- Love seeks the best for others
- Therefore, our truth ought to seek the best for others
- Being honest, courteous and kind
- Bringing the whole truth – Acts 20:27