Lying
John 8:44

Introduction:
A. Lying is a common and accepted practice in this country.
   1. Prime example: Our president and other government officials.
   2. A TV special report following the impeachment trials – most people admitted it without shame.
B. The Devil is, indeed, the father of lying (cf. Gen. 3:4)
C. Christians must put away lying. (Eph. 4:25).
D. We want to notice four aspects of lying in this lesson.

Discussion:
I. The Procedures Of Lying.
   A. There is more than one way to lie, according to dictionary definition:
      1. “A false statement or action, especially one made with intent to deceive”\(^1\)
      2. “Anything that gives or is meant to give a false impression”\(^2\)
   B. There are examples of various forms of lying found the Bible.
      1. Direct outright spoken lie — Cain (Gen. 4:9).
      2. Actions or gestures designed to lead another to believe a lie.
         b. Ananias (Acts 5:1-3) — Three hours later his wife lied outright. (vv. 7,8).

II. The Prevalence Of Lying.
   A. Common practice among wicked men.
   B. Often done by otherwise good people, especially under pressure.
      2. Sarah. (Gen. 18:15).
      3. Isaac. (Gen. 26:7-10).
   C. It is too often found among professed Christians today.
      1. Often tell “white lies” under pressure.
      2. Cheat in various ways: In school, on taxes, etc.
      3. Tell stories that have been around for years as if happened to them.

III. The Perniciousness Of Lying.
   A. It undermines the essential qualities for good relationships:
      1. Credibility.
      2. Trust.
      3. Reputation.
   B. It has a way of progressing from bad to worse.
      1. Often fosters more lying to cover up.
      2. May become habitual.

IV. The Punishment of Lying.
   A. Maybe in this life.
      1. Loss of friends.
      2. Pangs of conscience.
   B. For sure, in the world to come.
      1. The father of lies will be cast into hell. (Rev. 20:10)
      2. All liars will be cast into hell. (Rev. 21:8).

Conclusion:
A. No one likes to be called a liar, but there is something worse—being a liar.
B. Christians must always love truth above all else—avoid lying at all cost

\(^1\)Webster's New World Dictionary Of The American Language, College Edition

\(^2\) Ibid