

- I. Session 72: The Truth of God Part 3: Application of integrity to our lives
- a. Review: In the last two sessions we explore the attribute of the truth of God as taught in the Old and New Testament.
  - b. Purpose: In this session we shall study what Scripture has to say about integrity in our lives.
  - c. First know that lying and a lack of integrity is seen as an abomination in God's eyes
    - i. *"For the devious are an abomination to the Lord; But He is intimate with the upright."* (Proverbs 3:32)
      1. Devious involves mean deceptive, among other things.
      2. Note that God finds them *"an abomination to the Lord"*
    - ii. *"Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, But those who deal faithfully are His delight."* (Proverbs 12:22)
      1. Here the subjects are *"Lying lips."*
      2. *"Lying lips"* here is again something that God doesn't approve for they *"are an abomination to the Lord"*
    - iii. *"A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, But a just weight is His delight."* (Proverbs 11:1)
      1. Even the instrument of lying such as *"a false balance"* is *"an abomination to the Lord"*
      2. Again this is strong language but it shows how much God hates lying and lack of integrity.
  - d. Secondly vow that you be willfully honest and upright: *"Put away from you a deceitful mouth And put devious speech far from you."* (Proverbs 4:24)
    - i. Willfully say "no" to lying.
    - ii. Then make a plan to help you be more honest.
  - e. Thirdly realize a lying tongue has consequences
    - i. The benefit of lying tongue is momentary: *"Truthful lips will be established forever, But a lying tongue is only for a moment."* (Proverbs 12:19)
      1. The truth is that *"a lying tongue is only for a moment."*
      2. Notice the contrast: *"Truthful lips will be established forever"*
    - ii. There's consequences: *"He who has a crooked mind finds no good, And he who is perverted in his language falls into evil."* (Proverbs 17:20)
  - f. Pray to God that within your own heart you will have integrity: *"Two things I asked of You, Do not refuse me before I die: 8 Keep deception and lies far from me,"* (Proverbs 30:7-8a)
    - i. Notice that **verse 7** shows this is a prayer to God where the writer says *"Two things I asked of You"*
    - ii. The first prayer is that *"Do not refuse me before I die"* (Proverbs 30:7b)
    - iii. The second is a prayer concerning avoiding the lack of integrity: *"Keep deception and lies far from me"* (Proverbs 30:8a)
  - g. Pray that you will not be put in circumstances that forces you to violate your integrity: *"Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is my portion, That I not be full and deny You and say, "Who is the Lord?" Or that I not be in want and steal, And profane the name of my God."* (Proverbs 30:8b-9)

- i. This is a continual prayer to God.
  - ii. The petition is for “*Give me neither poverty nor riches*”
  - iii. The reason is so that one does not forget God nor steal and profane His name.
  - iv. Sometimes people violate their integrity to make more money in pursuit of wealth. Sometimes people act dishonestly to steal to survive but this also profane God’s name.
  - v. Pray that God would not put you in a circumstance that put your integrity in question.
- h. Meditate on God’s Law: “*I will meditate on Your precepts And regard Your ways.*” (Psalm 119:15)
  - i. Notice the importance of Christian meditating.
  - ii. When one meditate on God’s laws it does check back the sin of dishonesty.
- i. Finally be encouraged that integrity pleases God as your motivation to live with integrity.
  - i. Don’t forget the second line of Proverbs 12:22 in which after saying “*Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord*” we read this encouraging fact: “*But those who deal faithfully are His delight.*” (Proverbs 12:22b)
  - ii. Don’t forget the second line of Proverbs 11:1 in which after saying “*A false balance is an abomination to the Lord*” we read this encouraging fact: “*But a just weight is His delight.*” (Proverbs 11:1b)
  - iii. So pursue integrity not because you have to but because you want to please God!
  - iv. The greatest motivation for wanting to please Him? Jesus and the Gospel!