

Put Away Lying (Ephesians 4:25)

- The Gospel has practical implications that are far removed from the world's moralism
- All instruction is tied to "the truth as it is in Jesus" & "walk in love as Christ did"
- If our motivation for righteous living doesn't flow from here: works righteousness
- Paul is describing for us & exhorting us to walk in the light as Christ is the light.

I. God Alone Is Truth

- Is there anything more essential to the character of a holy God other than truth
- God's word says "God cannot lie" (Titus 1:1) in God there is no variation (Jms 1)
- God is essentially everlasting truth, he can never be tempted not tempt any one
- To be a Christian means that we are brought into fellowship with such a God.

II. Satan is the Father of All Lies

- True of God: very character of truth- So it's true: Satan: very character of a liar
- Jesus defines the very character of the devil: "liar and a murderer" John 8:2
- Christians must see lying for all its evil character, in light of God's love- Cross
- Moralizing in name of Christianity without Christ is the greatest denial of Christ
- As God's children in Christ we are no longer of that character (John 5:19)
- The very first sin of man was a lie, it plunged the world into darkness (2 Cor 11:3)

III. The Pervasiveness of Lying (Falsehood in Life)

- Lies grow more lies, a life of fantasy, escapism, contrary to Christ who is the truth
- Lying is at the heart of sin, it is ultimately the worship of self – self promotion
- We want others to think more highly of us, so with our words we lie and deceive
- We also lie when we say nothing, we just conceal the truth by withholding it.
- We may exaggerate the truth, we embellish- the root of it all is self importance

IV. The Universal Blindness and Hypocrisy of Lying

- Nothing shows more clearly how utterly broken in sin humanity is like lying
- It is no respecter of person or class it pervades every strata of society
- Sin has introduced a false dichotomy in us, it shows us we're truly slaves/ servants

V. Conflicting Effects of Lying or Falsehood on the Church

- Nothing hinders unity in the fellowship of the body as lying or falsehood does
- Lying springs from a root of idolatry, we are members one of another (Rom 14:7)
- Fellowship grows only in light of the truth – trust, openness & honesty