

# *A Lying Spirit*

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Mike Miller

Straight Paths Bible Church

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

I. So Satan is a liar and the father of it.

- A. He is the father of all lies.
- B. Lying and deceiving is his strong suit, it is his main tool and weapon against the kingdom of God and the souls of men.
- C. Every sin is preceded by a lie or many lies.
- D. A lie is what makes that which is forbidden desirable.

Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

- E. The devil's lies makes iniquity appear to be righteousness.
- F. The devil's lies makes God the epitomy of evil and Satan the epitomy of good.

II. Since we know this to be a fact that is clearly revealed to us repeatedly in the Bible it seems like we would be wise to the devil's tricks and avoid his lies and deception.

- A. But he is so good at it, and we are so blind to his attacks, that after 6000 years Satan is still ruining the souls of men by turning them against God with his lies.
- B. A lie begins with a spirit speaking to our minds.
- C. We are constantly learning and taking in knowledge and seeking for things that are true.
- D. However, most people do not honestly seek truth, but rather seek truth which agrees with their desires.
- E. The devil exploits this weakness, this fault, this selfish attitude of ours to deceive us about what is really truth.
- F. That lying spirit engages our mind to debate with us about what is really right and what is really wrong – just as he did with Eve in the garden.
- G. A lying spirit is very subtle

SUB'TLE, a. See *Subtil*. Sly in design; artful; cunning; insinuating;

1. This lying spirit is very cunning:

CUNNING, a. G. See *Can*.

1. Knowing; skillful; experienced; well-instructed.
2. Deceitful; trickish; employing stratagems for a bad purpose.

2. These lying spirits are not novices at what they are doing.

3. They are expert at it, and very experienced at it.
4. What they do they do with great skill.
5. So every question put to your mind by a lying spirit has been used before and has proven very effective in twisting the reasoning, the perception, and the concepts of the mind.

- III. Our greatest defense against this formidable foe is an intimate knowledge of the Word of God.
- A. Casual knowledge of the Word of God makes a person more susceptible to the devil's lies.
    1. This is because people tend to think they know all they need to know when they just know a little, concerning what the Bible says and teaches.
  - B. Casual knowledge of the Word of God is all most people have who sit in churches and claim to be Christians.
    1. At best they are spoon fed babes who only know what they hear taught and preached and talked about from other people.
    2. I am afraid that most of the time they are unconverted souls who have been deceived by the devil with their little knowledge of the Bible.
  - C. Intimate knowledge of the Word of God only comes from personal reading and study.
    1. Others surely do inspire us to strive toward this kind of knowledge of the Word of God, but they cannot give it to us.
  - D. Intimate knowledge of the Word of God is a body of understanding, not just a database of facts.
    1. The more we read and study, the broader and deeper and wider our view becomes of God and what He has done, and man and what he has done.
    2. The more this view and understanding grows the harder it is for the devil or anyone else to lie to us and make us believe it.
    3. This is because a lie will not fit with the truth, and if we know the truth intimately, we recognize it immediately.
    4. However, if we have settled for a shallow knowledge of truth and the Bible, it is easy for the devil to slip one in on us and make it make sense to us.
- IV. This is an area where we are left on our own – God does not intervene and miraculously save us from the deceit of the devil.
- A. God did not intervene while the devil deceived Eve.
  - B. God has given us the truth in written form that He has guaranteed to stand forever.
  - C. God has given us 6000 years of testimony and example so we can know the truth.
  - D. God sent his Son to earth so we could see him with our eyes and hear Him with our ears.
  - E. God has revealed himself to us and put his Holy Spirit in each true believer that Jesus said would guide us into all truth.
  - F. So when the devil comes to us in our mind and starts telling us his lies we have no one to blame but ourselves when we allow him to persuade us with lies and entice to leave our God.
  - G. It is no wonder God calls it adultery, for that is exactly what it is.
  - H. Let us gird up the loins of our mind, keep our own spirit, and learn all we can of God and his truth, as it is revealed in his written Word.
  - I. Take heed to those voices in your mind asking those questions and trying to draw your attention in a different direction.
  - J. Beware of the world's encouragement to be a critical thinker when it comes to God's truth.